

# THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

No. 44.—VOL. II.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1842.

PRICE 6d.

## ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

PELL-MELL.

"UNION is strength." We have in these three words a condensed epitome of man's experience in all foregoing ages. Upon this simple principle, all social and all political movements proceed. Truth has never been found to make head in the world, otherwise than by the consociation of its votaries. All the great changes which earth has witnessed, have resulted from like uniting with like. The winter torrent, the crashing avalanche, the flash of heaven which shivers the rock into fragments, are but natural illustrations of the force acquired by union—the visible symbols of that mysterious power which is generated when many minds, heretofore one in thought and feeling, become outwardly one in fellowship and purpose. Up and down through the various walks of society, knowledge of, and attachment to, any given political principle, may be scattered long time, in some plenty, to all seeming, inert. There shall not need to add to the quantity of existing materials, in order to invest them with irresistible might. Let but some common centre be established, towards which opinion may run—let but what is already diffused be gathered into one place—let but the latent electricity of mind be drawn out from the general mass which it pervades, unseen, unfelt, and concentrated in a Leyden phial, a visible and organised association—and it instantly becomes an agent strong enough to shatter time-worn institutions, and shake the frame-work of political society down to its very centre.

This separation of that which is peculiar from that which is general, this segregation, union, and organisation of minds of like stamp, like character, and like aim, is what Christianity proposes in the institution of what is called "the church." In the lapse of ages, truth might have crept its way into general respect and widespread influence, without calling to her aid a visible fellowship of her disciples. But who does not see the wisdom of her system of means and appliances? By constituting an order of brotherhood—by making sincere submission to her claims the bond of union, and the mark of distinction—her own light is flashed into the eyes of the world, reflected by broad and polished mirrors, instead of glimmering over the surface of society in sparkling fragments—the force of example is multiplied, and purity, always beautiful, puts on a robe of moral dignity which few can contemplate without admiring awe. Associated goodness possesses strange power over human nature. Were it real, rather than nominal—real, as once it was, what would be too difficult for it? What opposition would it not overmaster? The design is, at all events, replete with wisdom—to league truth against error, and scatter over the whole globe fraternal associations, linked to one common centre, for the extirpation of irreligion and vice.

It needed but the touch of legislators to spoil this whole machinery, and make of it a thing not merely destitute of wisdom, but destitute of meaning. One is at a loss to understand what is the moral of a national church. It neither distinguishes nor unites. It adds no power to example—it reflects no truth. It is not an association of like with like—but a mere conglomeration of anything and everything—homogeneous and heterogeneous. It sets off neither doctrine nor character—for although its articles are written in a book, it is not at all necessary that they should be believed by its members—and although rules for discipline may be discovered in its canons, they are in all respects, saving a pecuniary one, as practically obsolete as the curfew-bell of the Normans. The church is the nation and the nation is the church. According to the theory of this precious scheme, membership depends upon the accidental locality of birth. It is not particular as to character. Newgate is full of its members—so is the house of Lords. It receives the refuse of all other sects. All is fish that comes to its net. Avowed infidels have communed with it. Gamesters, duelers, adulterers, scoffers, the foes of God and the pests of man, all fraternise in this wonderfully comprehensive ecclesiastical society. And there they are, mingled together pell-mell, for what conceivable purpose it would puzzle the most sagacious to divine. The charm-song of the establishment is full of charity—

"Black spirits and white, red spirits and gray,  
Mingle, mingle, mingle, you that mingle may."

The point blank unscriptural or rather anti-scriptural character of this national church, is no less marked a characteristic of it than is its pitiful vacancy of all significance. As nothing more stupidly unmeaning can be conceived, so nothing more flatly contradictory of Christianity can be devised. After having looked into this ecclesiastical cauldron, into which are thrown indiscriminately

"Eye of newt, and toe of frog,  
Wool of bat, and tongue of dog,  
Adder's fork, and blind-worm's sting,  
Lizard's leg, and owl's wing,"

one is amazed at the blindness of men, who could ever have mis-

taken this thing for a Christian church. One is not so surprised at the prevalence of the mistake amongst those who never had a bible in their hands. But for those who have, the delusion is unpardonable. What! Is this mere aggregation of men, without assortment—this fraternisation of all characters, good, bad, and indifferent—this blending into one mass, without assimilation, of every variety of moral material—is this what was meant by the apostle, when he said, "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people"—this, that church of which Paul said that it was "the pillar and ground of the truth?" We will not go further into the subject. We feel reason outraged and understanding insulted by the preposterous pretence. Satanic craft could not invent a fouler or more malignant libel on Christianity. Why, the very world has had virtue enough to spit upon it with loathing, and to give no equivocal intimations to the priesthood of this lie in the name of truth, that if this be indeed what it purports to be, then revelation is but a fable, the clumsy fiction of monks and priests.

One word more and we have done. So long as those who know better, in assumed or mistaken charity, choose to recognise this mere worldly association as a church, and, more fearful of being thought violent than of actually conniving at a pestilential falsehood, refrain from denouncing it as an anti-christian imposture, so long must they expect its continuance and even its growth. From all ranks, dissenters are hurrying to join this body, under the persuasion that it is one branch of Christ's church; and that if there be some things in it capable of improvement, it only resembles in this respect the churches with which they have been more familiar. When will our youth be taught, and our congregations told, that a national church is no church at all—that it has none of the characteristics of a church—none of the powers of a church—none of the ends for which a church is constituted? It distinguishes not between the disciples and the opponents of Christianity. It is the "pillar and ground" of nothing but a vast hierarchical edifice. It is not associated goodness, nor meekness, knowledge, faith, nor love. It is a compulsory association of men in one company, with a view to their being taxed by one order of clergy—and the sooner its real character is made known, the better.

## CURIOUS ILLUSTRATIONS OF STATE RELIGION.

THE last month has been unusually fertile in rich and racy specimens of state-church Christianity. For a week previously to the royal christening, and during the week which succeeded, the columns of the daily papers were filled with homiletic articles, the questionable nature of whose doctrines was not less apparent than the sycophancy and adulation of their tone. Clerical pens were evidently in request. We say clerical, without a moment's hesitation, for the peculiar unction of the style it is impossible to mistake. The *Times* was pre-eminently pious on the occasion. It offered congratulations to its "fellow Christians, upon the admission into their number" of the Prince of Wales—scribed the favourable circumstances prevailing in the kingdom at this period to "the influence of that religion of which our prince" (at his christening) "became an unconscious partaker, taught by the church of which he is now a member, and made effectual by the providence of her divine Head"—and concluded by expressing an expectation that as "no common day was selected for the purpose, but the feast of the great apostle of the gentiles," "that life may well be happy which has been spiritually commenced under such auspices."

In the very same paper which contained the enlightened article, from which the above are extracts, an unusually large portion of its space was devoted to a description of the ceremony; the worldly features of which—to wit, the procession, the banquet, &c.—being most important, were presented in large type, the spiritual and devotional part, occupying but little room, was printed small. The loyalty of the Archbishop of Canterbury, whom the *Standard* presumes to style the head of the church, oblivious of the claims of her Majesty to the title, was superabundant—indeed it topped his devotion. His prayers and exhortations were made dependent upon his sovereign's good pleasure, and he waited, ere he entered into his Maker's presence, to ask the Queen's leave. The following is the report from the *Times*. The archbishop commenced the service thus—

"May it please your Majesties,

"Dearly beloved, forasmuch as all men are conceived and born in sin; and that our Saviour Christ saith, None can enter into the kingdom of God, except he be regenerate, and born anew of water and of the Holy Ghost; I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that of his bounteous mercy he will grant to this child that thing which by nature he cannot have; that he may be baptised with water and the Holy Ghost, and received into Christ's holy church, and be made a lively member of the same."

In the paper of the following day we stumbled upon an illustration of state religion still more curious. The Duke of Wellington,



in the presence of the Queen and the court, presented the 72nd regiment of Highlanders with a stand of colours. We give the commencement of his speech:—

"The Duke of Wellington, standing in the middle, addressed them, as nearly as we could hear, in the following words:—"May it please your Majesty—By the invitation of your commanding officer, and with the gracious permission of her Majesty, I have the greatest satisfaction in appearing before you on this occasion to present to this regiment a new stand of colours. *These colours have been consecrated by one of the highest dignitaries of the church*, and they are presented to you in the presence of a number of most illustrious personages—in the presence of her Majesty's illustrious guest, the King of Prussia, who has in his service some of the finest troops in Europe—in the presence of his Royal Highness the Prince Albert, and of many other distinguished officers."

We were taken to task some months since for averring that a state church is the patroness of war. Here is another proof of our accuracy, to be added to those we then adduced. The singular ignorance of the duke, however, is much of a piece with his extraordinary piety. These Highlanders whom he addressed are members of a kirk which knows no dignitaries, and which, until very recently, hated "black prelacy" to the full as intensely as heinous sin. The blessing of the bishop would hardly give more value to the colours in the eyes of these "stalwart Scots." Bishops! Why they know not what they are in the Highlands, otherwise than as they happened to suck in abhorrence of the whole tribe with their mother's milk. We should like to have watched the countenances of the men, as their senile commander gave utterance to his religious compliment. No! No! The Scottish people were an educated people—an intelligent people—a religious people—and consequently they sent bishops packing, with considerably more rough usage than becomed their ordinary gravity.

We have other specimens in our possession—but our space will not allow of further remark at the present moment. But what a mockery of real Christianity is all this mummery of priestism! When will a professedly intelligent people scout such pious absurdity from the land? Imagine the apostle Paul, consecrating a stand of colours for "Agrippa's band!" Why are we shocked at the idea in the one case, and yet see nothing but beauty in it in the case of his successor?

#### CHURCH-RATE FALLACIES.

In No. 42, we noticed the churchman's fallacy, "It is the law, therefore conscience must yield." In a short refutation we thus in part expressed ourselves—

"Nonconformity to a bad law is no sin; and if the law violates a religious conviction, conformity would be sinful, because religious obligations are superior to human conventions."

"In religious matters, each man is bound to think and act for himself; and society, when it assumes the power to restrain religious freedom, violates right in so doing. The only human laws, justifiable in religious matters, are laws to prevent men from interfering with the religious freedom of each other, which in effect are laws to secure, not to restrain, religious freedom: because they are laws against acts, not thoughts or words."

Upon this Mr Swaine wrote us a letter, which appeared in our last number. We had not then time to enter upon the subject.

Upon reading his letter with the intention of replying to it, we find he has omitted the whole of the context, and set up the first sentence of one paragraph only. Had he quoted the whole, it appears to us he would have had nothing against which to contend, or at least that his case must have been essentially different.

As he has only raised his case by a partial quotation, we have done that which he should have done, given the whole context; and we yield the advantage, if advantage it is, of leaving the argument of his letter so raised, without further answer. We do so, because we have seldom found any good arise from following an opponent who does not fully and fairly set forth the reasoning he selects for objection. He agrees with us in our main point—the argument for the supremacy of conscience in religious matters.

At Leicester, last week, Messrs J. F. Winks, T. Shardlow, W. Thirlby, Joseph Swain, T. Burness, J. Pickard, J. Holmes, H. A. Collier, W. Baines, High street, Swain and Paddy, T. and W. Stevenson, W. and G. Baines, and J. Manning, grocer, were summoned by Frederick Eames, hatter, one of the churchwardens of St Martin's parish, for non-payment of church rates. Several of the above appeared and stated their objections to the payment of church rates; and orders for payment were made upon all the parties.

On the 2nd of February, a distraint was made upon Messrs John Burd and Sons, of Radcliffe, for a church rate, amounting to £8 5s. 2½d., and £1 5s. costs, when a horse, worth about thirty guineas, was seized and driven off the premises. The rate was laid on the 22nd of July, no one opposing it, because the majority of the ratepayers did not hear of the meeting until after it was over. The rate had been defeated in the vestry a few months before; but, the meeting not being legally called, the pro-rate party declined a poll. The churchwardens watched their opportunity, and unexpectedly laid a rate, which was carried without opposition or hindrance. Such is the respect which the churchwardens of Radcliffe have manifested for civil and religious liberty.—*Manchester Guardian*.

At Kilgerran, in Wales, a vestry was appointed to be held on Friday week, but kept a most profound secret. On the hour arriving, and the anti-rate party unexpectedly mustering in considerable numbers, the pro-rate party, headed by their legal adviser, thought it prudent to sound a retreat, under the plea, that the vestry had not been regularly published. Finding it useless to attempt an underhand game, another was published to be held on Friday last, and the most determined efforts of the church rate party put in motion; which succeeded in collecting together a large group of their servile dependants, composed principally of the lowest grade. On entering the vestry room, it was moved by one of the church party, that Mr John Griffiths, of Forest, should take the chair. On this being seconded, Mr Asa J. Evans said, that the rector of the parish had a prescriptive

right to preside, and no opposition would, or could have been offered to his taking the chair; but, as they chose to take another course, he would move that Mr Griffiths Griffiths, of Penygegin, should preside: this was seconded by Mr John Evans, of Nantyrangell. It was then agreed that the rector should preside. On the motion of Mr A. J. Evans, the meeting adjourned to the body of the church, when it was moved by the Rev. George Griffiths, and seconded by Mr J. Griffiths, "That a rate of a penny in the pound be ordered for the ensuing year." Mr Asa J. Evans, moved as an amendment, "That a rate of a penny in the pound be not ordered." Mr Griffiths Griffiths, of Penygegin, seconded the amendment. Mr Amlott suggested to the chairman to order a division. Mr Evans submitted that the common-law mode of voting at parish meetings was by show of hands. A division, however, was ordered, and on the names of both parties being about to be entered on a paper, Mr E. delivered to the chairman a paper requiring him to see that none, except those ratepayers legally entitled, were admitted to vote on the question before the vestry. All present, however, were admitted indiscriminately. Ere the numbers were declared, Mr E. said, he objected to the votes of all who were not rated to the relief of the poor, and had paid all the poor rates demanded of them. The Rev. G. Griffiths took the same objection with respect to the anti-rate party. The numbers were then announced, and a majority of 17 declared in favour of the original motion, over those who supported the amendment. The overseers have since certified that no more than nine of the whole motley group of the pro-rate men had any legal right to vote, or to be present, while the other party had scrupulously avoided that dilemma; so that there was a large majority of valid votes recorded in support of the amendment.

At a vestry meeting, held lately at Illston-on-the-hill, Leicestershire, the Rev. Thomas Thorpe, rector, having taken the chair, said, it was of no use for anybody to come to oppose the laying of a rate; for the churchwardens alone, by virtue of their office, could lay a rate, and enforce it through the magistrates; for it had so been decided by the Bishop of London, in the recent Braintree case. Mr T. Frearson, jun., denied the rev. chairman's statement about the Braintree case, and was about to give a true statement of that case, when the rector exclaimed—"Take no notice of him; but proceed with the business of the meeting." An estimate was then handed round to all present, but Mr Frearson; and the rate was laid.

We have received the following announcement from a quarter which ought to be well informed—"A meeting of the bishops will shortly take place in London, for the purpose of considering the present state of the church, in reference to the doctrines lately put forth in some of the 'Tracts for the Times.' The time seems to have arrived when some such proceedings on the part of the head of the church, as is here announced is imperatively necessary.—*Standard*."

The members of the Marylebone Tradesmen and Operatives Protestant association, have addressed a memorial against Puseyism, to the Bishop of London, stating that there are at present, in their borough, places of worship and officiating clergy who follow the ceremonies of the Romish church; and praying his lordship to acquaint them with the measures he will adopt against them, by the time of their next meeting, on the 28th inst.

On Saturday last, John Caudwell, of Coddington, near Newark, labourer, applied to the Rev. Mr Footit, the minister, a non-resident, to bury his infant, only three days old; when, greatly to his surprise, he was informed that "his child was not a Christian, as it had not been baptised," and the poor fellow was under the necessity of dispensing with the burial service!—*Stamford Mercury*.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### CHURCH-RATE FALLACIES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—The long letter from Mr Swaine, in your last number, upon the important subject of "disobedience to a law because it is bad," requires very serious consideration. Many years ago, when the criminal code was sanguinary to a barbarous extent, a forgery was committed by which I suffered some loss. The law required me to prosecute, and full evidence to convict the forger was in my hands—but I thought the law bad and refused to prosecute; breaking the law rather than shedding the blood of a fellow-man guilty only of fraud. But leaving to you the opportunity of vindicating your doctrine, allow me to consider the subject as it relates to church rate. I need not occupy your space by inquiring into the difference between obeying and submitting. He who voluntarily pays the rate, obeys. He who is coerced and suffers his goods to be taken, submits. My objection to making or paying a church rate is a conscientious determination to maintain the spirit and letter of the Christian system as revealed in the New Testament—and therefore I am bound by conscience to resist every attempt, by coercion of human laws or customs, to interfere with the support or mode of divine worship. It is a deeply interesting question as to the proper boundaries by which we are to regulate and confine our duty to Cæsar or civil governors, and our spiritual duty to the Father of our spirits—or to ascertain how far a Christian, determined to render his full duties unto Cæsar, is to discriminate between them and those duties which belong to God alone—for it must be equally criminal to render unto God the things that are Cæsar's, as to render unto Cæsar the things that are God's. Cæsar regulates our temporal, as the Almighty alone can regulate our spiritual affairs. In the former we obey man, but in the latter our most jealous regard must be to obey God alone. Daniel refused obedience to human laws, and God honoured his resistance to the law. Our Christian martyrs, as honest dissenters, refused obedience to human laws relating to the mode or ceremonies used in worshipping the triune God in whom they believed; and every sect now applauds their dignified decision to obey God rather than man. If they are honoured for refusing to support certain unscriptural modes of worship commanded by law, how much more energetic and decided ought our conduct to be in resisting a church rate supported only by custom and not by statutes; such church rate being intended to compel us to maintain certain modes and ceremonies, and a state religion abhorrent to our Christian principles. It cannot be too widely made known, and ought to be thundered into the ears of dissenters, that no parliament of this or of any other country, even in the darkest ages, ever dared to make any act, statute, or law, imposing church rate for the support of religious worship—and that there was no act of parliament to compel any parish even to repair the fabric of the church until the recent church-building acts were passed; and they only relate to new parishes formed within the last twenty or thirty years. The authority for making and enforcing church rate is custom, which, when long established and per-



severed in, is called common law. We are bound to submit to acts of parliament until they are repealed or altered; but we are not bound by conscience to submit to bad customs, however long established, more especially if in our esteem these customs are at variance with the spirit and nature of Christianity, our love to which compels us to oppose them. The custom was in a darker age for the parishioners to meet and make a rate under the terror of inhuman ecclesiastical power cruelly exercised. These terrors now only exist in history, and point to the sanguinary deeds of religion as by law established. Of late years the custom has been to meet and consider the equity and expediency of making a rate. If all the parish are of one sect, there is no fear of harm; but where there has been a difference in religious observance, the vestry have made or refused a rate as they have deemed it equitable, the decision of the rate payers being, when required, taken by poll with great legal precision. And so fully sensible are the advocates for church rates of the necessity of obtaining a majority, that I have seen an aged and wealthy rector, his curate, neighbouring clergymen and gentry, most actively canvass, threaten, bribe, bully, and cajole the parishioners, to obtain votes.

Now, sir, how much a plain statement of facts dissipates the delusions practised by a bigoted, niggardly sect, who seek any subterfuge to save them the necessity of maintaining their churches at their own expense, and whose incessant cry is, "It is the law of the land and must be obeyed;" or, "Your house is subject to church rate, if made, and therefore you ought not to oppose it;" or, "It is a tax upon real estate, in the nature of land tax or a rent charge," concealing the fact that no rate can be sustained, even in the holy inquisition called a spiritual court, if made upon real estate, it having been repeatedly decided that every rate must be quashed, unless made upon individuals for benefits or supposed benefits received in the cure of the soul. Such arguments in defence of church rate are beneath contempt, as was that of an ex-member of parliament in a certain parish near London, who advised the dissenters, if their consciences were affected by paying the rate, to give it to their landlord, who would hand it over to the parish collector! a mode of satisfying conscience which was much applauded by the advocates for the rate. After having resided for fifty years in perfect harmony with men of every sect, in a parish with an ancient church dedicated to St Peter, but in which no church rate was ever made, I removed into a family house in a parish in which church-rate contests were carried on; and here I found one powerful sect at war with all the others, and manifesting a bitter spirit of hostility. Being a justice of the peace my position was rather delicate; but perfectly satisfied that it would most essentially promote peace and good will to refuse a compulsive rate—that it is to the honour of every sect to maintain at their own expense their own mode of worship—and that there is no law to prevent the church of England and every other sect from thus acting equitably and honestly—it became my duty, although not attached to any sect, actively and earnestly to oppose the making of a church rate. Much opprobrium is thrown at me by a sectarian faction which urges me on while it excites my pity. The rate was once lost, at another time gained; but when gained it is not a law which I am bound to obey. It is a rate which if it should prove to be legally made may be enforced, and I must submit to the spoiling of my goods. But I can never obey any such requirement which trenches upon my full and unqualified obedience to God—whether it be by compelling me to support an establishment of religion opposed to the authority of Christ; or if it compelled me to attend services called religious, but which I deem to be pompous ceremonies devised by man to enable him to trample upon the rights and liberty of his fellow-man; or whether it be to prevent my uniting in religious services agreeable to my conscientious convictions, and which, being voluntary and peaceful, cannot abridge another's liberty or break his peace.

Such laws did exist, and were enforced upon dissenters by the protestant church of England; and it was the plain honest Christian duty of the non-conformists not to obey such laws; and many thousands were fined and imprisoned, and hundreds perished in gaols, the victims of their fanatical persecutors. I will obey, and compel others to obey, the laws of man in all things which do not interfere with full obedience to God. But in opposing and endeavouring to prevent church rates, no law, either divine or by act of parliament, is violated; peace is promoted; and when all compulsive payments for religious services are abolished, the church of England will take an honourable position among the many sects which are benevolently working to civilise and Christianise the land.

#### AN ENEMY TO OPPRESSION.

#### IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Parliament was opened on Thursday by her Majesty, who read from the throne the following royal speech:—

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"I cannot meet you in parliament assembled without making a public acknowledgment of my gratitude to Almighty God, on account of the birth of the Prince, my son—an event which has completed the measure of my domestic happiness—and has been hailed with every demonstration of affectionate attachment to my person and government, by my faithful and loyal people.

"I am confident that you will participate in the satisfaction which I have derived from the presence in this country of my good brother and ally the King of Prussia, who, at my request, undertook the office of sponsor at the christening of the Prince of Wales.

"I receive from all princes and states the continued assurance of their earnest desire to maintain the most friendly relations with this country.

"It is with great satisfaction I inform you that I have concluded with the Emperor of Austria, the King of the French, the King of Prussia, and the Emperor of Russia, a treaty for the more effectual suppression of the slave trade, which, when the ratifications shall have been exchanged, will be communicated to parliament.

"There shall also be laid before you a treaty which I have concluded with the same powers, together with the Sultan, having for its object the security of the Turkish empire, and the maintenance of the general tranquillity.

"The restoration of my diplomatic and friendly intercourse with the court of Teheran has been followed by the completion of a commercial treaty with the King of Persia, which I have directed to be laid before you.

"I am engaged in negotiations with several powers, which, I trust, by leading to conventions, founded on the just principle of mutual advantage, may extend the trade and commerce of the country.

"I regret that I am not enabled to announce to you the re-establishment of peaceful relations with the government of China.

"The uniform success which has attended the hostile operations against that power, and my confidence in the skill and gallantry of my naval and military forces, encourage the hope on my part that our differences with the government of China will be brought to an early termination, and our commercial relations with that country placed on a satisfactory basis.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"The estimates of the year have been prepared, and will be laid before you.

"I rely, with entire confidence, on your disposition, while you enforce the principles of a wise economy, to make that provision for the service of the country which the public exigencies require.

"You will have seen with regret that, for several years past, the annual income has been inadequate to bear the public charges; and I feel confident that, fully sensible of the evil which must result from a continued deficiency of this nature during peace, you will carefully consider the best means of averting it.

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"I recommend to your immediate attention the state of the finances, and of the expenditure of the country.

"I recommend also to your consideration the state of the laws which affect the import of corn, and of other articles, the produce of foreign countries.

"Measures will be submitted for your consideration for the amendment of the law

of bankruptcy, and for the improvement of the jurisdiction exercised by the ecclesiastical courts in England and Wales.

"It will also be desirable that you should consider, with a view to their revision, the laws which regulate the registration of electors of members to serve in parliament.

"I have observed with deep regret the continued distress in the manufacturing districts of the country. The sufferings and privations which have resulted from it have been borne with exemplary patience and fortitude.

"I feel assured that your deliberations on the various important matters which will occupy your attention, will be directed by a comprehensive regard for the interests and permanent welfare of all classes of my subjects, and I fervently pray that they may tend in their result to improve the national resources, and to encourage the industry and promote the happiness of my people.

#### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

##### PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Church of England, for increased accommodation, 1.

Church patronage (Scotland), for abolition of, 1.

Corn laws, for repeal of, 219.

Union with Ireland, for repeal of, 1.

Universal Suffrage, for, 1.

##### PUBLIC BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

###### MOTION.

Presentation of public petitions—(Mr Wallace)—On the question being put, "That this House adhere to the established practice with respect to the presentation of petitions," motion made and question put, "That the said resolution be rescinded." The House divided; ayes 50, noes 237.

##### BILLS PRESENTED, AND READ A FIRST TIME.

1. Outlawries bill.

2. Appropriation Acts Amendment bill.

##### BILL READ A SECOND TIME.

Appropriation Acts Amendment bill.

##### CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Appropriation Acts Amendment bill.

##### SUBSTANCE OF CONVERSATIONS.

**MARRIAGES BETWEEN DISSENTERS AND MEMBERS OF THE ESTABLISHMENT.**—On Friday evening Sir ROBERT PEEL, in answer to a question from Mr O'Connell, stated that the question relative to the validity of marriages celebrated by dissenting ministers between dissenters and members of the established church had been for some time under the consideration of the government. He was fully aware of the evils which resulted from the law as it at present stood, by which persons who had been long in the possession and exercise of legitimate rights found themselves liable, under a recent decision, to be deprived of them from the absence of certain technical forms. An immediate remedy should be applied to the existing evil, but time would be required to decide upon a permanent settlement of the matter in controversy.

**CHURCH RATES.**—On the same evening in answer to a question from Sir J. Easthope as to whether the commission appointed to inquire into the jurisdiction of ecclesiastical courts would take the subject of church rates into its consideration, Sir R. PEEL said the commission had been appointed to inquire into the jurisdiction of ecclesiastical courts, and a bill had been framed upon its recommendation for their amendment, but it would not include any reference to the question of church rates. In answer to another question from Sir J. Easthope, the right hon. bart. said the government had no measure in contemplation with regard to that subject. Mr HAWES understood the committee had recommended a better mode of levying and collecting church rates. Sir R. PEEL thought it would be better to wait till the report was laid on the table, as these questions could only lead to useless discussion.

**NEW POOR-LAW.**—On Monday evening Sir JAMES GRAHAM, in reply to Mr S. Wortley, said that government would propose the continuance of the poor-law commission under certain amendments; they would also propose a measure relative to factories, in which the labour of young persons would be regulated, and the recommendation of the committee of 1840, as to infants, would be adopted.

**CHURCH EXTENSION.**—On the same evening Sir ROBERT INGLIS, in reply to a question from Mr Hawes, declared his intention of introducing the subject of church extension during the present session of parliament.

##### DEBATES.

Thursday, Feb. 3.

##### THE ADDRESS.

About half-past four o'clock the Speaker read from the chair her Majesty's speech.

Lord MARCH then rose to move an address in answer to it. He urged the necessity of providing a revenue which should be equal to our necessary expenditure, and protested against the false and foolish economy of crippling the nation in its means of defence. He thought that ships of war ought not to be risked upon service without their due complements of men, nor regiments on foreign stations exposed to mortality for want of a sufficient force to furnish the necessary relief. At the same time he was anxious that the taxation which might be necessary for the establishments of the country should be of such a nature as would not press heavily upon the poorer classes. On the subject of the corn laws, he must say that he preferred to see their revision undertaken by those who would give a just protection to agriculture (and the landed interests desired no more), than by a party, some of whom were for a fixed duty of 8s., and some for the removal of all protection whatever. He concluded by reading the address which he had to propose, and which, as usual, closely followed the tenour of the speech.

Mr BECKETT seconded the address, and dwelt with some enthusiasm on the birth and baptism of an heir to the throne; trusting that the introduction of the youthful prince within the pale of the church would strengthen it by another pillar from the same family which had already furnished so many to its support. He touched lightly on foreign affairs; but felt it his painful duty to declare that at home distress had widely increased; insomuch that some, who not long since had been the dispensers of charity to their neighbours, were now reduced to seek it for themselves. He was persuaded that prosperity could never be reached and maintained in this country without some provision for the regular employment of the poor.

Mr EWART hoped that ministers would adopt some at least of the suggestions contained in the report of the committee on import duties. He was particularly anxious for a reduction of the duties on sugar and on coffee. He would be disposed to support a property tax, fairly



imposed upon landed and funded property alike, and tending to relieve the labouring classes. He feared that the plans contemplated by government on the subject of the corn laws were not very likely to involve any arrangement which would increase our export of manufactures to America, and bring hither the corn of that continent in return. While England continued her exclusive system, the United States would continue theirs. The same erroneous policy on our part had injured also our trade with Germany, which had now become a manufacturing country. He was anxious to see the sliding scale abandoned, and would rejoice to find Sir Robert Peel now prepared to change his commercial policy, as he had formerly changed his views upon religious exclusion.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL cordially concurred in the greater part of the address, particularly in the expressions of congratulation on the Prince's birth—of gratification at the Prussian monarch's visit—of satisfaction at the state of our foreign relations. He was glad, too, to find, that the subjects to which ministers had called the attention of parliament in this speech were of the same nature which it had been the pride of the late government to bring forward. He was of opinion that the disorder of the public finances required correction; but that this matter ought not to be considered except in conjunction with the laws affecting trade. Remedies very different from those advanced by the late government had been lately suggested. Delegates on the question of the ten hours' bill had been received by the present ministers in a somewhat theatrical style—some of which delegates turned out, after all, to be editors of socialist newspapers—and restrictions on labour had been proposed, which he was glad that Sir Robert Peel, with more caution than Lord Ashley, was prepared to resist, since the concession of them would have gone to the root of all manufacturing industry in England. Schemes of emigration, too, had been started; but he had collected that they were not encouraged by the Colonial Secretary. The repeal of the poor law had been threatened, or at least an abrogation of the commission; but the recent appointment of a commissioner (highly qualified for his duties) refuted that apprehension. He was glad to find that, instead of any of these remedies, the measures contemplated were not materially at variance with those wholesome principles which the late government had left as a legacy to the nation. Into the subject of the corn laws he would not now enter in detail; but he must press the principle of the fixed duty; and he begged Sir Robert Peel to consider the ill consequence of making an arrangement which would presently be disturbed by fresh discontent and agitation. He was not prepared to promise his assent to new taxation: his own opinion was, that it would be more proper to try a modification of our commercial system, and await its effects upon the exchequer. He saw nothing, however, in the present address which ought to preclude the unanimous concurrence of the House.

SIR ROBERT PEEL was gratified, but not surprised, at this expression of unanimity. Ministers thought it desirable to avoid forcing the House of Commons, on the first night of a session, into any pledge upon precise measures, which gentlemen had not yet the opportunity of knowing and considering. On the subject of the treaty with Persia, it was only justice to say, that the most cordial co-operation had been given on the part of Russia; and with respect to the United States, he rejoiced that Lord Ashburton, whose connexions with America peculiarly fitted him for the adjustment of our controversies in that quarter, had consented, though at great personal sacrifices, to undertake the mission necessary for that purpose. The termination of differences between two such countries would advance, not only the interests of those countries themselves, but the general civilization of the world. Lord John Russell had adverted to several supposed remedies for the present distresses of our own people. Ministers had certainly received the delegates on the ten hours' bill, whom the noble lord described as socialists; but whatever the political opinions of those parties might be, at least they had not been encouraged to hope for the high honour of a presentation to her Majesty. He had not inquired, nor did he think it his duty to inquire, into the opinions of all deputations who called upon him as minister; and he had been no party to the publication of the reports of the interview, which publication, on the contrary, he regretted, as inconvenient in practice. Having given notice for Wednesday of a motion on the corn laws, he would not now anticipate that discussion. He had wished to bring on the financial and commercial policy of the country both together, but was withheld by a consideration of the public interest. He would, however, make his financial statement as soon as the House should have voted so much of the supply as would be necessary for the public service, and for the ascertainment of the amount of revenue to be raised. It would then be for the House itself to decide whether it would ratify the measures of the government, or adopt some others to be proposed by those who dissented from the views of himself and his colleagues.

MR VILLIERS intimated that he would, in the early part of the session, take the sense of the House on the total repeal of the corn laws.

MR ESCOTT regretted that the agricultural interest had lost their best friend in her Majesty's councils, viz., the Duke of Buckingham. He was happy, however, that the important subject of the corn laws was so soon to be discussed, and trusted that it would be brought to a satisfactory conclusion.

The address was then agreed to.

Friday, Feb. 5.

#### COLONIAL EMIGRATION.

LORD STANLEY said, that with regard to the subject of emigration, he had received from different quarters various schemes of a most comprehensive and extensive character. He believed the House would allow that he was only discharging the duty which he owed to the public, in the office he had the honour to occupy, if he took the earliest opportunity in the present session of directing the attention of the House to two questions of great importance to different classes of emigrants. One to provide better security to poor emigrants against frauds and inconveniences on their passage, and the other to obviate the fluctuating systems of alienating land in certain colonies. With respect to a general scheme of emigration, he had seen none proposed which would not be a burden on the country. Nor was it necessary: the average number of persons who had emigrated on their own account during the last five years, except in 1838, when emigration to British North America was interrupted by political causes, was from

75,000 to 80,000 annually; in 1840, 90,700 emigrated; in the first three quarters of 1841, 106,475. It was only requisite to direct and control that amount of voluntary emigration. The passengers' act, consolidated in 1825, had done good; and the appointment of government emigration-agents at the several ports, in 1833, had done more; but the experience gained by the working of the passengers' act and the reports of the agents had suggested further improvements. Lord Stanley would lay before the House two reports on the subject by the Colonial Land and Emigration board, with a draft of the plan by which the present law was to be amended, and to be extended to short intercolonial passages. His object was to get the measure passed, without opposition, before March, when the season of emigration from this country usually commenced. His second bill was confined to the Australian colonies, because the Crown had a more efficient control over the legislation of those colonies than over those which had separate legislatures of their own; and to the West Indies no considerable tide of emigration had set in from this country. He quoted a few figures to show the importance of the chief of those colonies, New South Wales; whence, in 1840, we imported of wool alone 7,668,000 pounds, and where the sale of lands in that year realised £339,738. The continued fluctuations, however, in the mode of disposing of waste lands not only gave rise to vexatious litigation, but checked the influx of capital and of emigration. The system of selling land in New South Wales had been altered in 1827, 1828, 1831, 1838, 1840, and 1841; in the last year returning to the plan that had been abandoned before. Nor could he see any reason for a variety of modes obtaining at the same time in New South Wales, Port Phillip, Western Australia, South Australia, and New Zealand. The plan which he proposed was founded, with some modifications, on the resolutions of the South Australian committee of last year. It was this—

"The land should be surveyed in all the colonies named, in districts, and brought to sale in three classes, as land reserved for towns, land in the neighbourhood of towns, and country land. All this land should be offered at periodical auction sales; but while the two first classes should only be sold at those sales, the land of the third class, which had been offered for sale and remained unsold, should be saleable in the intervals between the sales at the upset or minimum price. Thus the best lands would realise adequate prices, while inferior land would sell at the lower price. A minimum price for all lands would be fixed by parliament: the Queen in council would have the discretion of raising that price, and a governor, with the sanction of the privy council, might also raise the price in his own colony; but when once the price had been so raised, it could not be lowered again except by act of parliament. One half of the proceeds, and as much more as the authorities should think fit, should be devoted to purposes of emigration: on the other half should be imposed other charges—such as the cost of surveys, a sum for the benefit of the aborigines, and roads and other internal communications. It would be necessary to limit the duration of the act to the life of the Queen: neither parliament nor her Majesty could dispose of the hereditary revenue beyond the life of the sovereign."

LORD STANLEY concluded by moving for leave to "bring in a bill for regulating the survey and sales of land belonging to the Crown in the Australian colonies and New Zealand."

LORD JOHN RUSSELL entirely concurred with the general principles which Lord Stanley had laid down, and especially as to the impolicy of attempting any great systematic course of emigration. He was fully aware of the abuses which the existing restrictions were insufficient to prevent, and he rejoiced, therefore, that a more stringent remedy would be applied. The other part of the proposed measure, that relating to the sales of land, equally met with his approbation; and although there might be some objections to the particular mode in which the intended alterations were to be carried into effect, the consideration of them should be postponed until the details of the plan were before the House.

MR ROEBUCK denied the right of the Crown to appropriate any part of the money obtained by the sale of land in the colonies, and objected entirely to the proposition that a portion of the funds thus raised should be devoted to the purposes of emigration. This was, indeed, a favourite theory of political economists, but it was neither more nor less than the insertion of an additional clause into the new poor law act. It was a plan to transport the poor of this country to the shores of our colonies, which suffered most materially by this influx of poverty. The consequence had been, that in Canada a tax on immigrants had been proposed as a measure of self-defence, and he contended that no such encouragement as that suggested should be given to the sending out of a large body of persons to Australia, who, from the want of capital in the colony, could not be employed. He protested against the mother country legislating for her colonies, that she might serve her own objects, and he denied most distinctly the doctrine that the proceeds of colonial land sales were legally applicable to English purposes. When once emigrants had reached the land of their selection, their interests should be confided to their own keeping—they should be left to govern themselves, and they would do it full well.

LORD STANLEY briefly replied, and leave was granted.

Monday, Feb. 7.

#### PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS.

MR WALLACE, in pursuance of notice, addressed the House against the rule which restricts the discussion of petitions on their presentation. A few words only were mumbled out on each of the petitions, and then a great mass of them was carried out in a big bag. In the speakership of Mr Manners Sutton, members were allowed to state the subject of a petition at their discretion. Not so in the late do-nothing parliament, which he had felt it no honour to belong to. That was a whig parliament; it would be seen whether the present, which was called a tory parliament, would properly treat the people's right to petition. He respected the convenience of ministers, who ought to be suffered to begin public business at a stated hour: but he more respected the privilege of the people, of late unjustly infringed. When June and July, the jobbing season, should come, and ministers should bring down their six and seven bills a day, which would be the case if they imitated their predecessors, no individual member could get anything attended to. He had himself been unable, during a whole season, to present, with the due accompanying statement, an important petition from Kelso. He now moved to rescind the resolution on which the present practice was founded, in order to recur to the old usage of discussing the petitions at the time of presentation.

MR ROEBUCK seconded the motion, and Sir R. Inglis opposed it.

MR O'CONNELL considered that the petitions of the people were treated with unbecoming levity and insult in that house. He hoped the motion would be carried.

SIR ROBERT PEEL said, that if any insult were offered, it was the



fault of those presenting the petitions; for the rule of the House involved no discourtesy. The member presenting the petition was at liberty to state the place whence it came, the number of the signatures, and the material contents; and might, if he so required, have it read at the table. On all petitions relating to personal grievances or requiring present redress, discussion was permitted at the time of presentation; and any petition whatever might be printed with the votes, and brought on for discussion upon notice. Mr Roebuck had desired the conservatives to return to the practice of their ancestors. If they did so, they would limit themselves to mere presentation. The present rule had not discouraged petitions: since its establishment the number of petitions had much increased. It was the experience of an evil, growing up twelve or thirteen years ago from constant discussions, which had led the House to adopt the following regulation. They must strike a balance between conflicting advantages and disadvantages; and on the whole he thought it would be impolitic to divert more of the time of the House, which was the time of the public, from practical legislation to the discussion of petitions.

Mr WAXLEY had remarked that evening that a bundle of at least thirty petitions had been presented in the space of about half a minute, and he did not think that such a mode as that was respectful to the people of this country. That House was the people's house—the house of Commons—yet in the hereditary house more attention was paid to their petitions, for there discussion was permitted. One cause of the number of petitions was the misconduct of the house of Commons; and shortening the duration of parliament would tend to correct that misconduct.

After a few words from Sir WALTER JAMES and Sir VALENTINE BLAKE the House divided, when the numbers were—

Against the motion.....	237
For the motion .....	50
Majority against the motion .....	187

#### HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, Feb. 3.

The Marquis of ABERCORN moved the adoption of the address in reply to her Majesty's speech—the address being an echo of that document. The noble marquis commented upon each of the paragraphs of the speech, and especially recommended that the utmost caution should be exercised in dealing with the corn laws; deprecating any sudden changes which might be proposed which involved the general interests of the country.

The adoption of the address was seconded by the Earl of DALHOUSIE, who, in reference to the corn laws, expressed his confidence that any measure introduced by her Majesty's government would be well considered, and framed with a due regard to all the interests of the nation.

Viscount MELBOURNE concurred with the address generally, and congratulated the government upon this fact, disclosed by them in the royal speech, that they had found the affairs of the empire in a state by no means so disastrous as they had portrayed it in August last. With regard to the corn laws, he condemned all sliding scales as injurious, and contended that no change in the averages could operate to the prevention of frauds. If government had determined at present to adopt a sliding scale, he earnestly recommended them to reconsider their plan.

The Earl of RIFON believed that the example afforded by the late ministry was sufficiently ominous with regard to reconsideration to dissuade the present government from following it; at the same time he trusted that the question of the corn laws would be considered by their lordships with temper and without passion.

Lord BEAUMONT advocated the existence of a corn tax, but considered that a modification of the present system was requisite.

Lord BROUGHAM declared his satisfaction at the intimation of an intention to propose a revision of the corn laws. He was convinced, however, that the only safe mode of dealing with the subject was by a total repeal of all restrictions—gradual, indeed, in its progress, but total in its result. In connexion with the treaty which had been concluded for the suppression of the slave trade, his lordship remarked upon the circumstances which had attended the recent capture of the *Creole*. He contended that the slaves who formed the cargo of that vessel had only acted in the exercise of a natural right in rising upon the crew and carrying the ship in which they had been confined into an English port. A life had been lost in the scuffle which obtained them success, and eight of the slaves had been imprisoned on a charge of piracy and murder; but if a demand were made for the surrender of these slaves, compliance would be unlawful. The noble lord proceeded to demonstrate this position, and, after expressing the gratification he experienced at the auspicious presence of his Prussian Majesty, and at the manner in which he had been received by the people of England, adverted to the change which had taken place in the constitution since the occasion of his former visit to this country. The change had been a very important one; the privileges of the people had been largely increased; but although many had felt apprehension for the results of this experiment, no difficulty had been found in the working of the system, and the loyal feelings for which Englishmen had been always remarkable had remained unshaken. He trusted that this experience would induce their illustrious visitor to persevere in the beneficial reforms he was making in his own country, and that as the fears expressed at home ten years since had been proved groundless, a still further extension of the franchise would be conceded. It was not safe to exclude all from the representation except the holders of property, and he trusted that, however gradually the operation might be carried on, a beginning would be made to prove that such a line of distinction would not be preserved.

Lord FITZWILLIAM felt much gratified at finding that the measure for which for three years he had laboured unsuccessfully was now to be submitted to the House, and that too by a ministry which owed its possession of office entirely to the agricultural interest. He was surprised, however, that such a proposal should have emanated from a government, of which the Duke of Wellington, who had so often and so energetically spoken in favour of the present system, was a member; and he feared that but little after all would be effected, although the Duke of Buckingham had, in consequence of the intentions of his colleagues, felt himself compelled to retire from the cabinet. If the measure to be brought forward embraced the sliding scale—if it were

not large and efficient in its operation, it, he was convinced, would prove a failure.

The Duke of WELLINGTON, in reply to the noble earl, stated that he was unwilling to enter into the details of the proposed measure until it was formally before the House. He had no doubt that he could easily clear himself from the charge of inconsistency, but he thought that he ought not at that stage of the discussion to be more explicit as to the nature of the intended change.

The Duke of BUCKINGHAM declared that his opinions upon the corn laws had undergone no alteration; that a measure had been proposed by his late colleagues on the subject which he found it impossible to support, and that as an honest man he had no alternative but to retire from the ministry. On no other question had there been the slightest difference of intention, and although upon that one point they were opposed, yet every other measure which her Majesty's government might bring forward, and which would conduce to the interests of the country, should have his cordial support.

The motion for the address was then agreed to, and their lordships shortly afterwards adjourned.

#### GENERAL POLITICS.

##### DOMESTIC.

##### METROPOLITAN.

The following petition to the Commons has been adopted by the members of the Saint Luke's Enfranchisement and Anti-monopoly association:—

"That your petitioners are of opinion that the legislation of this country has been detrimental to the happiness and prosperity of the empire—that the cause may be traced to the limited nature of the elective franchise—to the fact that those inhabitants who possess that privilege are unprotected in its exercise—and to the absence of a principle of unity, arising from an unequal distribution of political power throughout the electoral body.

"That your petitioners further conceive that, irrespective of the natural and constitutional right possessed by every man to a voice in the election of members of parliament, the increasing intelligence which has manifested itself of late years amongst the unenfranchised inhabitants, renders it a duty incumbent upon the legislature to extend the franchise to every man 21 years of age, untainted by crime—to protect every elector in the exercise of that right, by adopting the principle of vote by ballot, and that of equal electoral districts—that the whole community may be fully and fairly represented.

"That your petitioners are convinced that the adoption of these principles by the legislature, would speedily be attended with the most advantageous results to all classes—inasmuch as a legislature so convened would truly reflect the national will, and consequently recognise the principles of free trade in all their integrity; promote an enlightened system of education, so that every child born in the British empire would be trained as an intelligent human being; repeal prohibitive duties on provisions, which are producing misery, poverty, disaffection, and crime; increase the loyalty of her Majesty's subjects; restore confidence in the wisdom of your honourable House; strengthen and maintain the credit, the dignity, and the glory of the British empire!

"Your petitioners therefore pray your honourable House to pass measures which shall extend the elective franchise to every citizen 21 years of age, untainted by crime; to protect the electors in the exercise of that right by the vote by ballot; and secure equal electoral districts."

A public tea-meeting of the members and friends of the Camberwell Anti-corn-law association was held last Wednesday, at the Grove House assembly rooms, Camberwell. The spacious room was densely crowded. About 600 ladies and gentlemen sat down to tea, amongst whom were Benjamin Hawes, Esq., M.P.; Dr Bowring, M.P.; Benjamin Hawes, Esq., sen.; W. A. Wilkinson, Esq., chairman of the association; George Beacon, Esq.; William Wilson, Esq.; Ralph Ricardo, Esq.; the Revs Messrs Burnett, Binney, Steane, and Green; Sidney Smith, Esq., &c. Letters of apology were read from the Right Hon. T. D'Eyncourt, M.P., Colonel Thompson, and other gentlemen, regretting their unavoidable absence. Benjamin Hawes, Esq., M.P., was unanimously called to the chair.

After a lecture delivered by Colonel Thompson on the corn laws, on Wednesday last, in Marylebone, the chairman stated that "at Retford he had seen the poor gathered round a butcher's shop, waiting to buy the offal meat, but they were told they could not have it, as it was wanted for the hounds of a gentleman in the neighbourhood."

At an anti-corn-law meeting held in Leicester square on Friday evening, Mr Leader, M.P., stated it to be his opinion that the voice of the people had compelled the attention of a tory government to these laws, but he warned them against expecting much from the ministry. The secession of the Duke of Buckingham from the cabinet was one of those cleverly-played political tricks to make people think that something great was to be done.

In the Bankruptcy court, on Thursday, the case of Roger Hitchcock, the linendraper in Regent street, was disposed of for the present, after repeated adjournments and a very lengthened investigation. Commissioner Holroyd went over the charges which Mr Hitchcock, in his own exculpation, had preferred against Messrs Cooke and Gladstone. Some of those charges, the Commissioner said, implied criminal conduct; but they rested solely on the contradictory statements of the bankrupt himself. The representation given to Mr Wheeler, however, on the 21st July, that the bankrupt was a person trustworthy and safe, when in fact the firm had so little confidence in him as to have offered to "write off" 2,500*l.* from his account, had the commissioner's strongest disapprobation: out of that transaction a civil suit might arise. He must say that the bankrupt, when he left the court, went as a man wholly unworthy of credit; and as his balance-sheet was not satisfactory, he should order the examination to be adjourned *sine die*.

The grand jury of the Central Criminal court, on Thursday evening, found "a true bill against Alexander Baring, now Lord Ashburton, Francis Baring, and Humphrey Mildmay, for conspiracy." It is understood that the indictment charges the defendants with a conspiracy to bribe certain members of the legislature of Mexico to pass a bill to prevent foreigners from holding land within that state; and that the motive which induced the defendants thus to interpose was to deprive the prosecutor, one Samuel Moore, of the advantages of a contract entered into between him and the defendants. The Recorder intimated that the court had no jurisdiction.

At the Central Criminal court on Thursday, Thomas Elder Harwood, a witness in a case before the grand jury, made application to the court to be absolved from taking the oath required of him, upon conscientious grounds. The applicant stated that he would not take the oath, because he believed that doing so would be in direct contra-



vention to the word of God. The Recorder—Do you belong to any of the sects which are excused from the necessity of being sworn, by act of parliament? The applicant stated that he did not. The Recorder said that personal scruples could never be set against the authority of the legislature. The applicant replied that he would not swear: he would abide the consequences, let them be what they might. If he incurred the displeasure of the legislature he could not help it. He had, on former occasions, been glad to allow his property to be taken away rather than violate his conscientious opinions. The Recorder—Then you have connived at a felony, and violated your duty as a subject to the laws, in order to satisfy a personal scruple. Applicant—Unless there can be found some persons to protest against and refuse to obey corrupt laws, such laws would be in force for ever. The Recorder said he was bound under recognizances of 40*l.* to appear as a witness; and, unless he did so appear and take the necessary oath, he would forfeit his recognizance. Mr Harwood—I cannot help it: I cannot alter my determination. The Recorder—Then I shall order your recognizance to be estreated. Harwood then left the court, apparently firm in his determination not to violate his conscientious scruples.

Quarterly average of the weekly liabilities and assets of the Bank of England, from the 9th of November, 1841, to the 1st of February, 1842, both inclusive, published pursuant to the act 3 and 4 Will. IV, c. 98.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Circulation .....	£16,630,000	Securities.....	£22,880,000
Deposits .....	8,506,000	Bullion.....	5,237,000
	£25,136,000		£28,117,000

#### PROVINCIAL.

In consequence of the succession of the Earl of Darlington, the member for South Shropshire, to the dukedom of Cleveland, the Honourable Captain Bridgeman, of Weston, has addressed the electors, bespeaking their votes for his nephew, Lord Newport, who is now in Italy. Mr Whitmore, of Apley, near Bridgnorth, has also been mentioned as a conservative candidate.

Mr Bainbridge has retired from the representation of Taunton. Sir Edward Colebrooke has offered himself as the liberal candidate, and has already addressed the electors. It is expected that he will be opposed by Mr Hall, on the tory interest.

On Monday, the 31st ult., a large and influential public meeting was held in the independent chapel, Mare's Green, West Broomwich, for the purpose of adopting petitions to parliament for the total and immediate repeal of the corn laws. The following ministers and gentlemen took part in the meeting: Revs J. Hudson, D. A. Owen, J. Savage, W. Stokes; A Kenrick, Esq.; E. L. Chance, Esq.; T. Kenrick, Esq.; T. Botteley, Esq.; also Messrs Murray, Smith, Brettell, Powell, &c. John Spittle, Esq., took the chair. The different speeches delivered abounded with facts proving the great distress of the country, and so thorough appeared the conviction in the minds of the assembly that nothing short of a total repeal would afford effectual relief, that when directly appealed to by the Rev. W. Stokes (in the midst of his speech) to demonstrate this by a show of hands, every hand in the assembly was instantaneously raised to indicate their determination on the subject. J. Spittle, Esq., and the Rev. W. Stokes, were unanimously appointed as delegates to represent the association in the approaching meeting of deputies in London.

Spirited and unanimous anti-corn-law meetings have been held during the past week at Tewkesbury, Bridgnorth, Stroud, and Coventry.

The Anti-corn-law Bazaar at Manchester opened on Monday week, in the Theatre royal. The Manchester papers are full of the affair, which seems to have been very brilliant. The receipts both at the doors and stalls were large on the Monday, notwithstanding very unfavourable weather. There could not have been fewer than 1,600 visitors, at 2s. 6d. each. On Tuesday the bazaar opened at eleven o'clock, and remained open till three, at an admission of 1s., and the press during these four hours was very great. In the evening the press was even still greater, and at length the committee were compelled to close the door; and within the lobby several ladies fainted, from the heat and pressure. The place was literally crammed; and, though the entrance door was closed at nine, it was nearly ten before the visitors who were in could be induced to depart. Hundreds went away unable to obtain admission. On the third day the crowd was so great, that it was with difficulty the stalls could be approached. There is every probability that the receipts will be so ample as to enable the League to send lecturers into every part of the kingdom which has not already been visited, and especially to Ireland, where there is much ignorance of the bearings of the corn law question. The following are the receipts for the week:—Monday, £1,717 3s. 2d.; Tuesday, £1,492 13s. 0d.; Wednesday, £1,061 8s. 8d.; Thursday, £1,045 0s. 10d.; Friday, £769 10s. 4d.; donations, &c., about £850 0s. 0d. Total, £6,985 16s. 0d.

The following letter has been addressed to the short-time committees of Cheshire, Lancashire, and Yorkshire, by Lord Ashley, in reference to the recent interview with Sir R. Peel:—

"Gentlemen,—It is with the deepest regret that I am obliged to announce to you that Sir Robert Peel has signified his opposition to the ten hours' bill; and I conclude, therefore, as you will conclude, that his reply must be taken as the reply of the whole government on this important question.

"Though painfully disappointed, I am not disheartened, nor am I at a loss either what course to take, or what advice to give—I shall persevere unto my last hour, and so must you. We must exhaust every legitimate means that the constitution affords, in petitions to parliament, in public meetings, and in friendly conferences with your employers—but you must infringe no law, and offend no proprieties. We must all work together as responsible men, who will one day give an account of their motives and actions. If this course be approved, no consideration shall detach me from your cause—if not, you must select another advocate.

"I know that, in resolving on this step, I exclude myself altogether from the tenure of office. I rejoice in the sacrifice, happy to devote the remainder of my days, be they many or be they few, as God in his wisdom shall determine, to an effort, however laborious, to ameliorate your moral and social condition.

"I am, gentlemen, your faithful friend and servant,  
"ASHLEY."

A memorial to her Majesty the Queen, signed by about eighty gentlemen of Leeds, including clergymen, dissenting ministers, and persons of influence, was last week forwarded to Sir James Graham for

presentation, expressing a strong opinion of the unjustifiable character of the war with China, and praying that it may be forthwith terminated. The following is the memorial:—

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY—

"The undersigned inhabitants of the borough of Leeds most respectfully beg leave to lay before your Majesty this our dutiful and humble memorial.

"China, the most ancient, the most populous, and the most pacific empire in the world, 12,000 miles distant from England, is now suffering from the terrible scourge of war, inflicted by the subjects of your Majesty.

"This is the first time for ages, that China has been visited with fire, sword, and rapine, by a foreign people.

"The attempt of a few unprincipled merchants (men unworthy of this honourable title) to force smuggled opium, a poisonous drug, upon the Chinese people, in spite of the humane precautions of their government, has drawn down this mean and atrocious war upon three hundred millions of our fellow creatures, and fellow heirs of immortality.

"The sufferers are heathens; the invaders are professing Christians.

"Wherefore we entreat your Majesty, as a Christian queen, by every motive of religion, justice, humanity, and sound policy, to exercise your high prerogative to put an end to this unhallowed and disgraceful war; and to save the unhappy people of China from the treble curse of 'battle, murder, and sudden death,' from which Christians pray to be delivered; and may your Majesty ever remember that 'blessed are the peace-makers, for they shall be called the children of God.'

"We also humbly entreat your Majesty to cause the production of opium, for the Chinese market, in your Majesty's British Indian empire to be prohibited, and the sale of it in that country by your Majesty's subjects declared illegal; since your memorialists believe that in no other way can peace and commerce with China be restored on the sure and permanent basis of reciprocal benefit.

"With dutiful affection to your Majesty's person and government, we are your Majesty's loyal and faithful subjects."

The following are the receipts of the railways for the last week—that is to say, up to the date to which the respective returns are made:—Blackwall, 563*l.*; Hull and Selby, 694*l.*; Manchester and Birmingham, 306*l.*; Eastern Counties, 641*l.*; Birmingham, 12,988*l.*; Northern and Eastern, 839*l.*; South Western, 3,445*l.*; North Midland, 3,727*l.*; Midland Counties, 2,156*l.*; Great Western, 10,475*l.*; York and North Midland, 1,281*l.*; and Birmingham and Gloucester, 1,477*l.*

The Isle of Wight banking establishment, at Newport, has stopped payment, and filled the town with consternation, there being no run upon it. There is no doubt but the malicious reports circulated to the discredit of Sir R. Bassett and Co.'s bank, and the consequent run upon it, also injured the Messrs Kirkpatrick's circulation, and caused many of the deposits to be withdrawn; still their credit stood very high, and their stoppage must ruin many and injure hundreds. Their principal circulation was in Newport and Ryde.

The money collected at Rochdale for the relief of the poor, has been spent in blankets and cotton sheets. A block has been procured on which is engraved—"The Prince of Wales' Relief Fund, Rochdale, 1842," for the purpose of stamping the blankets; and it is intended to visit all the pawnbrokers, to request them not to take in any blanket thus marked. This plan of relief has been adopted in preference to soup kitchens, as it has been well ascertained that the poor of Rochdale and its neighbourhood are in a miserable and wretched condition as regards their beds. Hundreds have nothing to sleep upon but shavings, and their only coverings are old packsheets, or rent and torn old carpets.

On the midland circuit, before Lord Chief Baron Abinger and Mr Justice Williams, the days and places appointed for holding the ensuing Lent assizes are—Northampton, Monday, Feb. 28; Oakham, Friday, March 4; Lincoln and city, Saturday, March 5; Nottingham and town, Thursday, March 10; Derby, Saturday, March 12; Leicester, Thursday, March 17; Coventry and Warwick, Monday, March 21.

Upwards of forty men are now busied in painting and decorating the interior of the Pavilion at Brighton, for the reception of her Majesty and Prince Albert, in a few days.

#### IRELAND.

The *Dublin Evening Post* says—"It is certain that Lord Eliot does not return to Ireland—and it is rumoured that he has already resigned. We should not be surprised to learn that his lordship had actually tendered his resignation; but, we believe, there is no positive intelligence received on the subject."

The same paper sounds the alarm to the Irish graziers, against whom, says that journal, Sir Robert Peel is about to open the British provision market, whilst, as he confines himself to a new edition of the sliding scale, no material interference is to be attempted with the monopoly of the English landlords, in regard to the corn laws. The *Evening Post* gives a letter from its London correspondent, dated Thursday evening, in which the following statement is made respecting the contemplated changes in the provision trade:—"Foreign black cattle (including German, Flemish, and Norman bullocks) are to be admitted at a duty of 30s. per head. The existing duty is entirely prohibitory. Sheep and pigs are to be admitted at a proportionately low duty, about 6s. per head. Foreign cured provisions are to be admitted at a duty of 7s. per cwt. The present duty is 12s. per cwt. This will excite a tremendous alarm amongst the Irish graziers, and amongst the landlords generally." The correspondent of the *Evening Post* also states that there will be a property tax of 3 per cent., an extension of the probate duty to real estates, and a considerable reduction of the duty on Brazilian sugar.

It is stated, and we believe upon good authority, that Archdeacon Torrens, rector of St Peter's, Dublin, is to be the new Irish bishop.—*Mercantile Advertiser.*

The execution of Delahunt, for the murder of the boy Maguire, on the 21st of December last, took place on Friday, when a degree of morbid curiosity was excited to witness the awful ceremony, which no similar event, for the past forty years, had created in Dublin. The usual hour (twelve o'clock) was appointed for carrying the law into effect on the ill-fated wretch; but for several hours previously crowds of persons were seen converging towards Kilmainham, in the hope of obtaining a view of the horrible tragedy to be enacted. At eleven o'clock the culprit was brought from the infirmary to the chapel, where he continued with his clergy until twelve o'clock, when the executioner entered for the purpose of pinioning his arms. This last officer of justice had his face covered with a white cloth, perforated with holes before his eyes. When the convict saw him he fainted; but, after a lapse of a few minutes, he recovered, and the operation was performed. The melancholy procession was then formed; the victim exhibited extreme terror, and had to be supported by the executioner. After a



short delay the fatal bolt was drawn, and the wretched man was launched into eternity. The Rev. Mr Mooney addressed the crowd, calling upon them to take warning by the sad example before them, and avoid temptation to all crime. After hanging for about half an hour, the body was taken down and buried in one of the gaol yards. Delahunt was in his 19th year.

## SCOTLAND.

On Monday se'nicht a public meeting was held in the Buck's Head hall, Kirkintulloch, Dumbartonshire, the result of which adds to the little cloud that has now happily risen on the horizon of political affairs, and affords a decided symptom of returning unity and co-operation among reformers of all shades. The meeting was called together "to take into consideration the propriety of petitioning for an immediate and total repeal of the corn and provision laws, and for an extension of the suffrage." After a good deal of conversation, a working man (Mr John Paterson) came forward from the body of the meeting and read a petition embodying the principle of complete suffrage, and praying for an immediate and total repeal of the corn laws. The petition, which was unanimously adopted after one or two minor alterations, was read as follows:—"The petition of the subscribers, &c., sheweth, that your petitioners are firmly convinced that the corn and provision laws, the offspring of class legislation, are the main source of all the distress under which this country at present labours; that they are therefore not only unjust and impolitic, but glaringly wicked, and ought to be at once entirely abolished. That your petitioners maintain farther that these laws are directly at variance with one fundamental principle of the British constitution—that taxation carried further than representation is no better than robbery; which means that every man who pays taxes is entitled to a vote in the election of members of parliament, or, that complete suffrage ought to be the law of the land. Finally, your petitioners would entreat members of the House of Commons to remember that the present distresses of this country are unprecedented; that there are limits to endurance; and that oppression maketh even a wise man mad. May it therefore please your honourable house immediately to abolish the corn and provision laws, and to grant to the men of Great Britain their political rights, and your petitioners shall ever pray, &c." The meeting appeared highly pleased with the petition, and the mover was assailed, at different stages of the proceedings, with "read it again, John!" from all quarters of the room, till it had been read no fewer than four several times. It was resolved to send the petition for presentation in the Commons to Mr John Denniston, M.P., for Glasgow, and in the house of Lords to Earl Stanhope. A committee was then appointed to superintend the securing of signatures.

On Tuesday week, a meeting of those friendly to petitioning parliament for the total and immediate repeal of the "corn and provision laws," was held in the tabernacle, Kirkaldy, Provost Swan in the chair. The resolutions prepared by the committee of the requisitionists who got up the meeting were moved and seconded by the following gentlemen: ex-Provost Anderson, Mr Bain, one of the united secession ministers, and Messrs John Cargil, Thomas White, James Wotherpoon, Peter Anderson, Robert Byson, and George Crichton. The resolutions were unanimously adopted, also a form of petition, and several eloquent speeches were delivered in support of them; after which Mr Robert Herriot moved, "That in the event of the prayer of the petition being denied, a meeting of the petitioners be held immediately after the parliamentary discussion on the corn law question, to consider what shall then be their duty; and that the said meeting be convened by the committee who take charge of the petition."

The *Scottish Pilot* has the following announcement:—"The annual meeting and soiree of the Association for Promoting Voluntary Church Principles, is to be held on Wednesday, the 16th current. From the present aspect of ecclesiastical affairs in this country, and the known talents of the gentlemen who are expected to take part in the proceedings, this meeting will be of a peculiar interesting character."

LORD JOHN RUSSELL AND SIR ROBERT PEEL.—It was remarked on Thursday evening, that Lord John Russell spoke with unwonted fluency and boldness, as if the air of the opposition benches had acted like a tonic, had braced his nerves and steeled his heart. Sir Robert Peel, however, slouched into the house more ungainly than usual, looking pale, timid, and conscience-stricken. He hung down his head, a characteristic which the short-time deputation noticed, and seemed afraid to look either his friends or his opponents in the face. His voice, too, when he began to speak, indicated decrepitude, it was thin and small, like the voice of a man who breathes hydrogen gas. It soon rose, indeed, nearly to its wonted fullness and pitch, but still the canker care was visible in walk, gesture, and speech. Sir Robert Peel was a happier man at the head of the opposition, worrying and teasing his opponents, than he is at the head of the ministry, clothed with vast official responsibility, and made to feel that a child cannot meet with a mischance in this wide empire but he may be blamed for it.—*Sun.*

## POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, February 9, 1842.

In the House of Commons last night, Lord PALMERSTON asked a question respecting the treaty between the five great powers on the slave trade. After stating the circumstances attending the origin of the treaty, he inquired whether any material alteration had been made in the draft as it stood when the late ministry left office, and whether the ratification of any of the contracting parties had been received, and if so, whether those ratifications had been exchanged for the ratification by the British Crown. Sir ROBERT PEEL said, that the treaty had been signed by the representatives of the five powers, but the ratifications had not been exchanged, the time for doing so having not yet expired. No material alteration had been made in the draft of the treaty.

Lord STANLEY moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the 6th Geo. IV., c. 88, and to alter the ecclesiastical arrangements in the West Indies. Mr LABOUCHERE seconded the motion, and leave was given to bring in a bill.

The House then went into committee on the motion of Mr GLADSTONE, in order to enable him to state the grounds on which he founded his proposed resolution, to be afterwards embodied in a bill, having for its object an entire remodeling of our customs duties in the British possessions in America, the West Indies, and the Mauritius. The measure was of a similar character

to the one introduced last year by Mr Labouchere, when president of the board of trade, but which, owing to the change of ministry, had not been carried through parliament. Sir ROBERT PEEL begged that no conclusions would be drawn from the proposition of the present measure, as to what would be the future course of her Majesty's government. The present measure was adopted on the ground of abstract right and justice; and he (Sir Robert Peel) would have supported Mr Labouchere on the simple principle of placing our East and West Indian possessions on an equal footing. But he hoped the House would draw no inferences from this circumstance; for he was afraid that his proposition to be made to-morrow night (this evening) would disturb the harmony which at present prevailed on the opposite side of the house.

Mr GLADSTONE obtained leave to bring in a bill for the regulation of railways. The government did not intend to interfere with the responsibility and freedom of action of railway companies. Colonel SIBTHORP would have been better pleased if a bill had been brought in to annihilate all existing railways whatever. Mr WAKLEY thought that a more stringent measure was required than the bill proposed by Mr Gladstone. Railway traveling under proper regulation, was the safest of all traveling. But he was convinced, from testimony, that the accident which had occurred on the Great Western railway had been the result of a want of the commonest precaution.

Mr WALLACE moved an address to her Majesty, praying for an immediate inquiry into the distress of Paisley and its neighbourhood. Sir JAMES GRAHAM and Sir R. PEEL opposed the motion, as they could not see how the proposed inquiry would do any good, while it might create expectations to end only in bitter disappointment. Sir Robert Peel, in particular, addressed himself to the subject of emigration, and said that it would inflict a double injustice—on the colonies, and on the emigrants—to send out people unfitted by their habits and capabilities for the purposes of emigration. After a long conversation, in which several members took part, including Mr YORKE, who had gone down to Paisley expressly to investigate the state of the inhabitants, Mr Wallace, yielding to the earnest request of Sir R. Peel, withdrew his motion.

Mr GODSON obtained leave to bring in a bill for more exactly defining the existing law of copyright in books, by causing copyrights, assignments, &c., to be registered in the court of Chancery; the object being to establish more clearly the right of the possessor of the copyright, and to prevent vexatious suits.

Lord BROUGHAM, in the house of Lords, called special attention to a petition on the corn laws, from the conference of ministers and members of dissenting congregations in Scotland, assembled at Edinburgh. The Marquess of LANSDOWNE presented a similar petition from the master woollen manufacturers of the West of England, chiefly situate in the counties of Gloucester, Somerset, and Wilts. Lord ASHBURTON entered his protest against the conclusion to which the woollen manufacturers of the West of England had arrived. He did not dispute the existence of distress, but did not consider that manufacturers were competent to point out the proper remedy.

The delegates from the different Anti-corn-law societies composing the great Anti-corn-law League of the United Kingdom, held their first conference yesterday, in the large room of the Crown and Anchor, in the Strand. DUNCAN M'LAREN, Esq., was unanimously called to the chair. The time of the meeting was principally occupied by the preliminary business of choosing an executive and finance committee, and other matters of importance. The resolutions connected with these arrangements, were moved and seconded by Mr ASHWORTH, the Rev. T. SPENCER, Mr PRENTICE, and others. Only one resolution bearing upon the great principle was proposed. It was moved by Mr JOHN BRIGHT, of Rochdale, in a very able address, and seconded by Dr PYE SMITH. A working man from Macclesfield, named FALVY, then addressed the meeting in support of the resolution, at great length and in a very masterly style. All the speakers dwelt upon the absolute necessity of total and immediate repeal, and every allusion to it was loudly cheered by the assembled delegates.

The resolution was as follows:

"That in the opinion of the deputies present, representing associations, public meetings, and religious congregations in various parts of the kingdom, the corn and provision laws violate the natural and inalienable rights of man—the right freely to exchange the produce of his labour for the food of all other countries, impiously obstructing the circulation of the bounties designed by Divine Providence for the benefit of all his creatures. That the aim of this monopoly of the first necessities of life is to enhance the price of the produce of the soil of this country, thus necessarily inflicting severe privations, especially upon the poorest portion of the community. That these laws, in their operation, not only expose the labouring class to the physical evils of hunger, disease, and even premature death, but they war against their eternal interests, by increasing the temptation to crime and immorality; rendering them less accessible to the influence of religion. That in denouncing the corn and provision laws as a great national sin, the deputies express their own deliberate conviction, and that of a vast portion of their countrymen, that those laws should be immediately and totally abolished; and the deputies constituting this meeting pledge themselves never to swerve or relax in their efforts until that object be accomplished."

The CHAIRMAN put the resolution, which was carried unanimously, amidst loud and prolonged cheers. The chairman also announced that the provisional committee had come to the resolution, that persons desirous of addressing the meeting should send their names in writing to the chairman, who would call upon them in routine. The chairman then called upon Mr Dixon, of Carlisle, to move an adjournment, but the calls for "The Lord Mayor of Dublin," who had entered the room whilst Mr Falvy was speaking, were so loud and continued, that the right hon. and learned gentleman at last came forward, and was received with a round of hearty applause. He spoke at some length, and with great eloquence, after which the meeting adjourned until to-day.

A letter was sent to Sir Robert Peel, to ascertain whether he would receive a deputation of delegates on the subject of his proposed measure, to which an answer was returned expressing his regret that, on account of the pre-engagements into which he had entered, it was not in his power to do so.

Sir HOWARD DOUGLAS (tory) was returned yesterday as member for Liverpool, there being no opposition.

Mr GEORGE ARKWRIGHT (tory) was returned yesterday for Leominster. Mr Nicholson, of London, was nominated by the whigs, but was subsequently withdrawn.

## CORN MARKET. MARK LANE, THIS DAY.

The supply of English wheat is about 2,000 quarters, and of foreign 7,100 quarters. There is no business doing; as the ministerial plan is to be made known to-night, all transactions are suspended.



## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have a number of letters from different correspondents this week, of sufficient length to fill several pages of our paper, were each inserted. Correspondents should aim at brevity, for long letters are seldom read. Most of them we should have been glad to insert, but during the sitting of parliament our space is very limited. This must be our answer to "Honestus," "H. P., Chateris," "W.," "W. J. S.," and "Laleus."

"B. W." will be glad to know that the matter he has at heart is in progress. "Your Friend." We overlooked his letter last week. The topic suggested is worth attending to, if we can find room.

"A. A." The publication of his letter will do good. We suspect the body generally. But we wish to take that course which will separate the precious from the vile.

An advertisement, dated 1st February, announcing the conference in London, reached us two days after our last week's publication. With whom the mismanagement rests we know not. We take, however, this opportunity of stating, that as the secretaries of several societies have unfortunately fallen into the same error, we have (viewing such matters, as we ought, as resulting from pure accident) concluded that the *Nonconformist* was born under an unlucky star.

The advertisement from the Metropolitan Collegiate association, with the accompanying letter, will be inserted in our next.

Terms for advertising in the <i>Nonconformist</i> .		
For 8 lines .... 5s. 0d.	For 16 lines... 7 0	For 24 lines... 9 0
10..... 5 6	18..... 7 6	26..... 9 6
12..... 6 0	20..... 8 0	28..... 10 0
14..... 6 6	22..... 8 6	Every additional 2 lines, 6d

\*\* Advertisements from the country should be accompanied by a post office order, or reference for payment in London.

## The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1842.

### SUMMARY.

HER Majesty opened parliament on Thursday last. The speech from the throne was of the usual character—that is to say, it stated some facts which every one knew, and intimated intentions, the purport of which it is impossible even to guess from the terms employed. The birth of a Prince of Wales, our relations with foreign powers, the treaties which have been entered into on our behalf, the disordered condition of our finances, the necessity existing for a revision of our corn laws, and the unprecedented distress of the country, constitute the main topics of the speech; and they were couched in language so dexterously vague as to secure the unanimity of both Houses. The address, a mere echo of the speech, was moved in the house of Lords by the Marquis of Abercorn, and seconded by the Earl of Dalhousie—in the house of Commons, by the Earl of March, eldest son of the Duke of Richmond, seconded by Mr Beckett. The speeches of all four were rigidly appropriate, each being a loyal dilution of that from the throne; an amplification of what was sufficiently obvious; and a further concealment, by many words without meaning, of what was not intended to be divulged. The eminent ability displayed by these personages was duly complimented by the whig leaders, and presages of the distinction to which their powers would probably conduct them were uttered with a good natured daring, which, if it does not surprise, at all events amuses us.

There were two or three points scattered over these exceedingly somniferous conversations (they cannot be called debates) about which public attention will naturally gather. That we are to have additional taxation is now certain. The mover of the address in the Commons gives the country sufficient assurance of that. From what source it is to be derived is yet involved in obscurity. The burden it is said will fall mainly upon the wealthy—a legacy tax, perhaps, affecting real, as fully as it now does, personal property; or possibly, an impost on our vast ecclesiastical establishment! An alteration of the corn laws was of course expected, and city politicians have been sanguine enough to anticipate a fixed duty of ten shillings per quarter. This would satisfy the monied classes, and all those comfortable aristocrats, who with the Marquis of Abercorn believe that "no other period of our history was so full of good promise for the future as is the present"—but there are vast masses of the people who have set their faces determinately against the taxation of food in any shape; and between this righteous principle, and that of protection adopted by Sir Robert Peel, Mr Villiers has announced his intention of bringing the legislature to a direct expression of opinion. Thus far, well. No one will rejoice more than ourselves, should the battle of the session be one of principles.

Lord Brougham, however, and he alone, touched upon the master grievance. The extinction of class legislation presents itself to his mind as the only feasible remedy for the present discontent; and although we are unable to gather up from his speech, the precise views he entertains on the franchise, he evidently regards the settlement of that question as far more likely to conduce to the permanent welfare of the country than even the total repeal of the corn laws, of which he is nevertheless a strenuous advocate. Herein, indeed, he widely differs from the ex-whig minister, Lord Melbourne, who, whilst professing his readiness to alleviate distress, can never consent "to hold forth that this can be produced by any changes in the constitution." Lord Melbourne has consented to so many things which he once repudiated with more than common energy, that we are quite easy in the prospect of his opposition. His clever speech, as well as that of Lord John Russell, was saturated with the spirit of party, and prove that as yet all topics are viewed by them through the medium of whig disappointments and whig expectations.

On Friday evening the House of Commons proceeded at once to

business. Lord Stanley asked for leave to bring in two bills in reference to emigration—the one intended to regulate and control the rising tide of emigration which has set in towards our colonies; the other to fix the principles and conditions of land sales. The first renders somewhat more stringent in operation, and more general in applicability, the "Passengers' act" already in force. The last divides land into three classes—that adapted to form sites for towns, which is to be sold by auction; that which from its immediate neighbourhood to such sites possesses an artificial value; and ordinary country lots which are to be put up at an upset price, and may be sold at that price in the interval of periodical sales. The Queen-in council is to have the power of fixing the price of land, and to the governor of the colony is to be committed the discretionary power of raising that price, subject to confirmation by the home government. One-half of the proceeds of sale is to be devoted to purposes of emigration, the remainder is to be divided between the humanisation of the aborigines, and internal improvements, such as roads, bridges, &c. The duration of the bill is to be limited to the life of her present Majesty.

On Monday evening the House decided by a large majority against Mr Wallace, that the practice of petitioning shall continue to be as ineffective as it has been of late, and that the prayers of constituents to the assembly which themselves have created, shall be put on the table *sub silentio*. This is one of the wise arrangements to which few but Englishmen, we believe, would submit. We first of all make men members of parliament for the express purpose of representing our opinions—then we "humbly pray" that they will do what we have selected them to do—and, lastly, we quietly allow them to decide among themselves that our prayers shall be buried in the clerk's bag, without a single word of discussion on their merits.

Some of the intentions of government have been elicited by the catechetical process. For instance, we are to have a factory bill, but not a "ten hours' one. We are to have, moreover, a bill for the continuance of the Poor-law Commissioners, together with some amelioration of the Poor-law Amendment act. We are most likely to have a measure on Scotch kirk affairs; and we are to be favoured with a reform of ecclesiastical courts. Sir Robert has wisely determined to let church rates alone. We make bold to advise Sir John Easthope to let them alone likewise. The Religious Freedom society, we see, has suddenly become energetic in this matter. When the whigs were in, and there seemed a chance of getting rid of the grievance, that eminently patriotic body devolved the anti-church-rate agitation upon the Leicester Voluntary Church society. Now that it is quite clear nothing can be done, it is active in projecting meetings between metropolitan dissenting societies and members of parliament. We emphatically warn dissenters against the whole movement. It means nothing—it can mean nothing—and it will end in a mere waste of public money.

The Southampton Anti-corn-law Conference, held last week, is noticed elsewhere. The great London conference of deputies is now sitting. We receive the strongest assurances that they will hold fast to total and immediate repeal, and, in that case, the real character of the present legislature will be thoroughly exposed, and "complete suffrage," now advancing with rapid strides, will get on at railroad pace.

Important intelligence has been received from China and India, upon which we have commented in another place.

### NO SURRENDER!

In the history of every nation there will usually be found some pivot upon which its ultimate destiny turns—a crisis of its being, easily discernible but soon past, during the brief transit of which, every political movement carries within it the germ of long generations of weal or woe. At such times those who occupy a prominent position stand in a relation of federal headship to posterity, and unborn millions are equally interested with themselves in the part they are called to play in the great drama of life. All foregoing ages may be viewed as introductory, merely, to that one moment—all past struggles as but the pangs and throes preliminary to the birth of that one opportunity. Upon the conduct of a small body of individuals, oftentimes of one man, is suspended all futurity—and to their proceedings historians have to trace the rise of a new era of national greatness, or the beginnings of national decline.

It can scarcely be concealed, even from superficial observers, that such a crisis in the history of our own country has now arrived. The nation has outgrown its institutions. We care not a rush what may be the nominal object of political strife—the real matter to be decided during the present session, aye! before the present month is numbered with the past, is, for whose advantage government is to be carried on—for that of a few, or for that of all. National wants are about to combat hand to hand and foot to foot with aristocratic wishes. The ostensible ground to be contended for is the corn laws—the real one is supremacy. The question is, which shall have way, the people or a class—principle or party—and the issue of this question involves the future fate of the British empire.

To the decision of the House of Commons we look without the smallest concern. Although none can deny that they possess the power to advance the welfare of the country, happily they are not competent in themselves to destroy it. Their votes are not victories—their enactments, the weapons we have least to fear. They have to deal with a vital and embodied principle, and unless they succeed in suffocating that, they gain nothing. The principle is the total and immediate repeal of the corn laws—the League, whose deputies are now assembled in London, is the embodiment of it. The whole future destiny of the nation depends upon their inflexible honesty. Whilst they continue to cover the ground upon which



they have planted their colours, aristocracy is kept at bay—let them but yield a single inch, and aristocracy will secure a full triumph. Whether the League be driven from the ground by sheer force, or be enticed from it by stratagem, or yield it by compromise, is of minor consequence. That is the principle they have bound themselves to assert and to maintain in the face of the legislature; and if any retreat be made from that, the victory will be with the ruling class—their supremacy will be established—the game will be in their own hands—and the use they will make of their success will just depend upon their own prudence, and not in anywise upon the power which is brought to bear against them.

The country will watch with keen eye and beating heart the proceedings of the London conference of deputies. Let us not be understood to speak disparagingly of that body, when we say that the nation's anxiety is justified by the circumstances of the case. It cannot be hidden from them that influential whisperers, steeped in whig notions, will find their way into that assembly. Laying stress upon the havoc which political uncertainty is playing with our staple interests, affecting strong fears lest whilst we are fighting the battle with landowners irremediable ruin may overtake us, slyly hinting at the impossibility of bringing the legislature to the proposed terms, pointing to the parliamentary strength of Sir Robert Peel, and urging that the acceptance of an instalment will not preclude pressing hereafter for the whole debt, they may build up a strong argument in favour of temporising expediency. Their object will be to labour by every conceivable means to prevent the principle of total and immediate repeal from going to a division. This they are well aware would be the damning test of our present legislature—it would, as they know, be the stroke which would ring out its hollowness in every ear—it would be the knell of every hope from that quarter, as well as of every prejudice against an entire political reform. Busily, therefore, will they intrigue to prevent that; and specious will be their reasonings with the conference to prevail upon them to quit their perilous position. Amidst so many there will be some, we doubt not, disposed to effect a compromise. The spirit of concession is catching, and the moment may arrive when, in the absence of a few staunch adherents to principle, Mr Villiers' proposed motion on the taxation of food may be voted inexpedient.

It behoves us, not indeed to anticipate such an issue, but to look at the consequences which must inevitably follow, should it unhappily be realised. From that instant the moral influence of the League, smitten with the plague, would sicken and die. For all the purposes of offering resistance to aristocratic encroachments, its organisation would be powerless. Meanwhile the landowners, emboldened by these symptoms of weakness, would seize upon the opportunity for establishing their claims. No antagonist possessed of public confidence would front them. Whatever fears they might once have entertained would be dispelled. If they can but destroy the character of the League, they will be able to make their own terms. No other opponent is at present equipped for the field. The day is their own—the recoil of public feeling would be to them the critical moment of the contest. Flushed with success, they would bear down upon the liberties of the people; and nothing but an unexpected interposition of Providence could prevent the total overthrow of all that is valuable to us as a nation.

This evening Sir Robert Peel will submit his plan to parliament. If rumour be correct, which we doubt, it is likely to afford greater relief than either friends or foes have expected. The conference will of course reject it—we earnestly trust it will do more. A motion denouncing the taxation of food should be instantly brought forward, and pressed to a division, before the deputies have separated. It may appear the boldest—it is, in fact, the most prudent movement which can be made. Nothing but a compact and unbroken principle can make the smallest impression upon the forces of monopoly. O! the tremendous responsibility which rests this moment upon the heads of the Anti-corn-law league—tremendous, but full of honour. We ask them not to wrest repeal from the party now in power—that we are well aware they cannot do; but for their own sake, for the sake of the cause they have espoused and conducted hitherto, for the sake of numberless other interests dependent on their present firmness—from the lowest depths of our hearts we intreat them to make good their ground—to nail their colours to the flagstaff, and take for their watchword, "NO SURRENDER!"

#### THE LOWER ORDERS.

HITHERTO we have always refrained from the use of this phrase. To our minds it has been a badge of degradation and infamy, clapped upon the shoulders of honest industry for the simple purpose of gratifying the aristocracy in their taste for oppression. It seemed to us to be intrinsically destitute of meaning—a nick-name, which, senseless and inapplicable as it was, served yet the purpose of setting fire to the rubbish of old prejudices with which the lumber room of some minds is stored. We have been accustomed to look at those, whose lot has been cast in poverty, and we have had many opportunities of studying their character. In point of real elementary intelligence, of mental cultivation, too, in proportion to the means enjoyed, we have never found the body of the working men below par—and, certainly, of the prompt and spontaneous exercise of that benevolence, which ventures upon privation and self-denial with a view to the promotion of another's welfare, we have witnessed many more instances among the poor than in any other class of society. If the middle classes of our countrymen have pleased themselves with a notion that virtue takes up its permanent and exclusive home with them, we advise them to take their walks in other circles, and to watch the mutual kindness, habitual honesty,

respect for each others feelings, and fidelity to their pledged engagements, which the "lower orders," as they are contemptuously called, usually exhibit.

That there are rascals among the poor—sensual, besotted, ungrateful, malignant, it would be foolish to gainsay—but they are few in comparison of the numerous class to which they belong. In proportion to the great body with whom they are identified, they do not exceed those of any other class. The strong suspicions with which they have regarded the sincere intentions of some members of the middle classes to advance their welfare, deeply as we deplore, we view without astonishment. Anxiously as we have sought to promote their cause, we have reason to know that our labours are watched with a jealous eye; and that by many of the working men, we are classed among those who are busied in spreading a net for the unwary. We cannot be angry that such surmises should exist—nay, more, we cannot wonder. The industrious classes have been so often deceived, betrayed so much as a matter of course, that we are only astonished that they will lend an ear to anything emanating from the "order" to which we belong. Their wary caution, so far from degrading, rather exalts them in our opinion; and we entertain not the smallest doubt, that consistency and sincerity will avail to secure their confidence to the full, as readily as that of any other class.

Rejecting, on these grounds, the use of the phrase to which we have referred, we are now convinced that it is not to be expunged from the language. The proceedings at the conference, lately held at Southampton, have driven us to the conclusion that there is a "lower order"—that the descriptive language is not only significant, but appropriate—that the class to whom we apply it, could not be designated by terms more apt. The hired bullies, and grown-up boys, in a state of beastly intoxication, who interrupted all discussion of a national grievance at Southampton, were bad enough—but

"in the lowest deep, a lower deep  
Still threatening to devour them, opens wide  
To which the hell they suffer seemed a heaven."

If these poor, ignorant, depraved creatures are deserving of reprobation, what infamy is deep enough for the wealthy, but cowardly ruffians, who purchased their services with money, wrung from the pockets of the poor, and protected them from the bench. Your parsons, and squires, and magistrates, treble-dyed with gentlemanly vices, haughty in proportion to their own contemptible meanness, tyrants without courage, physical-force men with white livers—these, the instigators of church and king mobs not many years since, the toad-eating sycophants of the nobility, the "things that creep about great men's heads," these are the true "lower orders"—be they tory or whig, radical or chartist. Let them bear this name henceforth and for ever. It belongs of right to them, and richly they deserve to enjoy it.

The working men are said to be unfit for the franchise, and the disturbances which have been created by them at public meetings have been put in evidence of their incompetency. This outrage at Southampton will, we doubt not, be cited as proof both recent and conclusive. We have only to reply, with boiling blood, that the working men, when they think fit to interrupt the discussions of the middle class—as under misguiding influence they have too often done—have sufficient courage to appear in person, and seldom misconduct themselves. But in this instance they proved their superiority to legislators and magistrates. They took no part in the outrage—they deprecated it with earnestness; and, to their honour, the conference published a formal resolution, exempting them from even a shadow of blame. We now call upon the people of Southampton to pause and consider. These men, whom their own resolution commends, are excluded from all political power. Those whom it denounces enjoy, not merely the privileges, but the honours conferred by the British constitution. How much longer is this farce to be upheld?

We implore our friends of the middle class to open their eyes. What indignant denunciations have we not heard of the chartists who, in our manufacturing towns, have proposed amendments foreign to the objects for which public meetings have been convened. We offer no excuse for their conduct on these occasions—we judge them to have done wrong, to have acted unworthily of the political principles which they profess. But the brawlers who have exhibited most violence, from before whose brutal fury anti-corn-law lecturers have been compelled to flee once and again, just as religious ministers did thirty years ago, are met with, not in large towns—but in rural districts—and are usually paid for their work, not by noisy demagogues and leveling politicians, but by members of parliament, magistrates, squires, and clergy. Why is all our anger to light upon the former class? Why are we so very lenient in our judgment of the latter? And why are the disgraceful excesses of men hired by the lesser aristocracy to do their dirty work, to be regarded as a brand and stigma upon the great body of working men, when the "respectable" classes are judged of apart from the vices of too many of their members? It is time to "judge righteous judgment;" and when this is done, we have great doubts whether the poor will be designated "the lower orders," and whether that phrase will not be found more befitting many of the rich.

#### OUR BRILLIANT SUCCESSES.

THE whigs, upon quitting office, left the nation a double legacy—a Chinese war, and the occupation of Afghanistan. None can have forgotten the shout of exultation with which the policy of the Indian government in respect to the latter country, and the intrepidity of our troops in that part of the world, were urged upon the attention of the British people. We were told that the



gallantry of our national regiments was only to be equaled by the wisdom of our national councils. The inquiry, sometimes put, as to what conceivable business we had beyond the Indus, was voted impertinent—and the doubt, sometimes expressed, that we should take nothing by our victories, was instantly drowned in clamorous imputations of indifference to our country's honour. Unhappily, the perpetrators of the wrong have escaped censure, whilst retributive vengeance has, as yet, visited only the instruments who were employed to perform it. From the *Morning Advertiser* we quote the following account:—

"Cabul has suddenly become the scene of awful insurrection—the spirit of disaffection has spread from one extremity of Afghanistan to another—while the profound secrecy with which, throughout all grades of the Asiatics concerned in it, the plot was kept, was such that its real originators, or the immediate cause out of which it springs, are concealed in the deepest mystery. The signal of the outburst was the massacre of Sir Alexander Burnes and his brother, accompanied with the slaughter of several other officers, among whom Lieut. Sturt, of the engineers, was cut down in the very presence of Shah Soojah himself. While these events were enacting at the capital, the principal outposts were undergoing assault. At Charekur, the Shah's 4th regiment, after a gallant defence, was cut to pieces. At Kohistan, the political agent was killed—and Ghuznee, only garrisoned by a single regiment, was beleaguered by the enemy; whence Captain Woodburn, proceeding at the moment with a party of 150 men for Cabul, was met by a body of the insurgents, and perished, with nearly his whole band."

From China, intelligence is of a different order. The wretched and wronged barbarians, terrified by the acknowledged superiority of our arms, flee from the presence of our troops, and leave their cities defenceless. We have plunged into an unjust war, and at present we seem to prosper in it. Let us not, however, forget that the day of reckoning will come. Palpable injustice, whatever undesigned and collateral good to its victims may have arisen out of it, never yet answered in the long run to its perpetrators. The opium war can be defended by none of the principles of international morality. We are adding to our national burdens, in pursuit of an object to which we can plead no right, at a moment when we are already sinking from sheer exhaustion. We are expending our resources in defence of the worst species of smuggling, and we grieve to add, that British Christians, instead of uplifting their voices in earnest remonstrance, either connive at the wickedness, or actually abet it. "It is not, and it cannot come to good."

At half-past two o'clock on Wednesday last, the Queen held a privy council, which was attended by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Lord President, the First Lord of the Treasury, the Secretaries of State for the Home, Foreign, and Colonial departments, the First Lord of the Admiralty, the President of the Board of Trade, the President of the Board of Control, the Secretary at War, the Paymaster-General of the Forces, the Duke of Wellington, the Lord Steward, the Lord Chamberlain, and the Master of the Horse. Sir Robert Peel had an audience of the Queen. The Duke of Buckingham had an audience, and resigned to her Majesty the Privy Seal. At the council his Grace, Walter, Duke of Buccleugh, was, by command of the Queen, sworn of her Majesty's most hon. privy council. Her Majesty having been pleased to appoint his Grace to be Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Roxburghe (in the room of the Marquis of Lothian, deceased), the noble Duke took the oaths appointed to be taken. Her Majesty having been pleased to deliver the custody of the privy seal to his Grace, the oath of Keeper of the Privy Seal was administered to him, and the noble Duke took his place at the board. Her Majesty having been pleased to appoint the Right Hon. James, Marquis of Salisbury, to be Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Middlesex, the noble Marquis took the customary oaths. Her Majesty having been pleased to appoint the Right Hon. Brownlow, Marquis of Exeter, to be Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Northampton, the noble Marquis was sworn in accordingly. Her Majesty pricked the list of sheriffs for the present year. The Queen's speech on opening the session of parliament was arranged and agreed upon.

Her Majesty proceeded in state on Thursday to open the session of parliament. There were considerable crowds assembled on the way leading from Buckingham palace to the royal entrance to the house of Lords; the guards and police, as on former similar occasions, lining the way. The presence of the King of Prussia gave to this day's ceremony additional lustre. Her Majesty was received on her arrival at the houses of Parliament with a military salute from the guard of honour, and a royal salvo of twenty-one guns. The Queen looked remarkably well. His Majesty the King of Prussia, attended by his suite, was very enthusiastically received on his way to the house.

The Queen held a court on Saturday afternoon at Buckingham palace, for the reception of addresses from both houses of Parliament. Shortly before one o'clock the peers arrived from the house of Lords, the Lord Chancellor attended by the Sergeant-at-Arms. The Queen received the address on the throne, his Royal Highness Prince Albert standing by her side, and was attended by the principal cabinet ministers, and the officers of the royal household. At half-past one o'clock the commons arrived at the palace, headed by their Speaker in his state coach. The right hon. gentleman wore his state robes, and was attended by the Sergeant-at-Arms. A numerous body of members attended, with a few exceptions, all habited in court dresses. After the presentation of addresses to the Queen, his Royal Highness Prince Albert received addresses of congratulation from both houses of Parliament.

His Majesty the King of Prussia took leave on Friday morning of the Queen, at Buckingham palace, and left, accompanied by Prince Albert, with an escort of the Life Guards, at half-past nine o'clock, for Woolwich, to review the Royal Artillery. After the review his Majesty embarked in the Firebrand steam packet for the Continent, accompanied by the Baron de Humboldt and all his suite.

Lord John Russell, it is said, intends to meet the ministerial proposition on the corn law, of whatever nature it may be, with a proposal for an 8s. duty, and a subsequent annual reduction of 1s. per quarter. —*Glasgow Chronicle*.

#### ANTI-CORN-LAW CONFERENCE AT SOUTHAMPTON.

We gave in the postscript to our last number an account of the first day's proceedings of the deputies to the above conference, and the disgraceful interruption which took place. The *Hampshire Independent* states, that some days previous to the meeting on Tuesday, a rumour gained currency in the town that it was intended by some of the tory clique to interrupt, and if possible, to frustrate the object of the conference, and certain circumstances having come to the knowledge of Mr Andrews and Mr J. Lankester, those gentlemen, as the largest employers in the town, at one o'clock on Monday, waited on the mayor, and informed him that they were willing to make affidavits that they anticipated there would be a body of drunken persons who would come down to try to disturb the meeting; and they therefore applied to him to assist them with a police force. The mayor replied that he had not been consulted about the meeting; he thought they had no right to hold the meeting; it was improper to bring a party of strangers into the town; and he should not render them any assistance, but should hold them responsible if there were a breach of the peace.

On Wednesday morning a meeting of the committee and delegates was held at the Long rooms, when it was resolved to hold the adjourned meeting at the same place, at one o'clock, and a deputation was appointed to wait on the mayor and borough magistrates sitting in petty session at the Audit house, and apply for legal protection from the violence and interruption of the hired mob in holding the meeting. The deputation consisted of J. C. Sharp, Esq., T. L. Harman, Esq., O. Thompson, Esq., Captain Bowyer, R.N., J. R. Keele, Esq., Dr Hawkins, Rev. Thomas Adkins, Capt. Blakiston, R.N., Mr W. Lankester, Rev. T. Spencer, Rev. Mr Brown, Mr Glaisyer, Mr Fletcher, Mr Ekless, and Mr J. Lankester. On the arrival of the deputation at the Audit house, they were received by the mayor, P. C. Fall, Esq., and Mr Lobb. After a lengthened discussion the mayor ordered the court to be cleared, whilst the magistrates consulted as to their decision. On the return of the deputation the mayor read the decision of the magistrates, which was to the effect, that it having been represented to the mayor and magistrates that at a public meeting about to be held in the long rooms a breach of the peace was contemplated, the mayor and magistrates had decided on recommending that the meeting should not take place, for if any violence ensued, the magistrates must interfere and prevent the consequences that might follow.

The deputation then retired, and proceeded to the rooms, which they found in a state of siege, there being upwards of 200 persons, and many of them in a beastly state of intoxication, attempting to break open the doors. No policeman was present, and they were allowed to proceed without interruption. After some time had elapsed, a number of delegates and others were admitted down a side passage unseen by the mob, and gained entrance at a window by a ladder, which was put down from the room by persons in it. Those who obtained an entrance in this way, with those previously in the room, were about 200 in number, and the question was mooted if, under the circumstances, the business of the meeting should be proceeded with or not. It was decided that the multitude should be admitted, and an attempt made to proceed with the business of the meeting.

The Rev. THOMAS ADKINS protested against attempting to reason with a multitude in a state of phrenzy from intoxication, but the doors were at length opened, and the room instantly filled with a tumultuous assembly of men and boys, the greater part of them drunk, and others not so, yet evidently drilled to a course of manœuvres that would effectually prevent all orderly proceedings.

H. MARSH, Esq. attempted to address them, and though his good-humoured jokes told with some effect at first, he no sooner touched on the tabooed subject of the landlords' tax, than the Fleming hirelings, true to the hand that paid them, instantly drowned the voice of the speaker.

Mr THOMPSON then attempted to address them, and though he said he came there as the friend of the poor man, and challenged any enquiry into his past life to prove that the benefit of the working classes had not been his constant aim, yet the well-drilled band were determined to hear nothing about the corn laws; and after some desultory remarks in reply to questions from some of the mob, but which contained no connected arguments as to the subject of the meeting, he too withdrew.

There were then loud calls for Mr EKLESS, and that gentleman came forward, and after expressing himself the friend of the poor man and the people's advocate, he conjured them to hear the speakers. The cry of "the poor law" induced Mr Ekless to say that of that law he had but one opinion, that it was unconstitutional, unchristian, and impolitic; but he again requested that the meeting would hear the speakers. Mr Ekless's persuasion proved equally powerless with that of the preceding speakers, and the tumult continued with unabated fury.

It being now apparent that the conduct of the previous evening was being repeated, and that the room was filled with a band of hired ruffians, led on by those whose stations should have taught them better, for the express purpose of preventing the business of the meeting from proceeding, the chairman declared the meeting dissolved, and the people dispersed.

At four o'clock the delegates and committee met at the large room of the Royal York Hotel. A space was cleared at the lower part of the room into which the public were admitted, and in a short time, the room was crowded to suffocation. The chair was taken by T. L. Harman, Esq.

The following resolutions, agreed to be submitted to the meeting at the Long rooms, had not the interruptions taken place, were then unanimously adopted, the movers and seconders entering at length into the question, and enforcing their arguments by various statistics of the depressed state of trade in every part of the Southern and Western counties, and details of the distressed condition of the manufacturing population.

Proposed by H. MARSH, Esq., of Andover, and seconded by Rev. J. BARFITT, of Salisbury—

"1. That the paramount duty of all governments is to provide for the happiness of the people, and that government is good only in proportion as it effects that object, and that the most sacred duty of the legislature is to enact laws for that purpose."



Proposed by Rev. W. MALDEN, of Chichester, and seconded by Rev. T. JONES, of Portsea—

"2. That, to use the words of Sir James Graham, the right of property is instituted for the good, not of the few who possess wealth and honours, but of the many who have them not."

Proposed by Mr JOSEPH TITE, of Beaminster, seconded by W. SNELLING, Esq., of Bishop's Waltham, and supported by the Rev. MORTON BROWN, of Poole—

"3. That the corn and provision laws are injurious to all classes of consumers, and bear with especial severity on the labouring classes both agricultural and manufacturing."

Proposed by the Rev. THOMAS SPENCER, of Hinton, seconded by P. ANSTIE, Esq., of Devizes, and supported by Mr ORIEL, of Devizes—

"4. That among the most calamitous of their effects, has been the fact, of which there is abundant evidence, that it has not unfrequently happened that children have been withdrawn from school in consequence of the inability of their parents to provide for them decent clothing; and that the parents themselves have, for the same reason, desisted from attending their usual places of worship."

Proposed by Rev. W. THORN, of Winchester, seconded by Mr EDWARD WILKINS of Newport (I. W.), and supported by Rev. J. M'LELLAN—

"5. That, by preventing the regular interchange of the manufactured products of this country, for the agricultural produce of other nations, they have greatly obstructed commercial intercourse, and have contributed to raise up rival manufacturers in foreign lands, thus excluding us from markets which we hitherto enjoyed, and producing feelings of rivalry and jealousy, instead of those sentiments of amity and peace which would naturally flow from intimate commercial intercourse, and from the feeling that all countries are more or less mutually dependent for their well-being on each other."

Proposed by Rev. W. MALDEN, Chichester, seconded by Mr W. LANKESTER, of Southampton, and supported by G. THOMPSON, Esq.—

"6. That, for the reasons set forth in the foregoing resolutions, as well as from a consideration of the designs of Providence and the revealed will of the common father of the human family, the members of this conference are convinced that the existing corn and provision laws are unjust in principle and cruel in their operation, and pledge themselves to use, from this time forward, every constitutional means to obtain the total and immediate repeal of all restrictions and all duties upon the importation of the necessary food of the people."

At the conclusion of the business it was proposed by GEORGE THOMPSON, Esq., seconded by HARRY MARSH, Esq., and unanimously agreed to—

"That this conference, on a calm and deliberate review of the disgraceful and infamous scenes which have been exhibited in Southampton, during the two preceding days, deem it their duty to record the expression of their belief, that in those scenes of outrage and violence the chartists of Southampton did not participate, and that, from the blame of them, they are fully exonerated; that their conduct was that of intelligent and peaceable men, desirous of listening patiently and impartially to the proceedings of the conference, and if permitted, of fairly and courteously discussing the great question on which the conference was convened; that further, this conference would express their unqualified admiration and commendation of the conduct of the chartists who attended this meeting, and would earnestly recommend it to the imitation of the working classes throughout the country, as conduct calculated to secure the respect and enlist the sympathy of all the other classes of the community; finally, this conference would express their belief, founded upon abundant and satisfactory evidence, that the scenes by which Southampton has for the last two days been disgraced, are solely attributable to the instigation of persons interested in the maintenance of the existing corn laws, who hired, by money and intoxicating drinks, a band of mercenary and ignorant men, to frustrate, by brutal violence, the object for which the conference was assembled; violence from which, though they respectfully sought it, the conference were not protected by the constituted authorities of the town."

## FOREIGN.

### CHINA AND INDIA.

By express from Marseilles files of papers from Canton and the several presidencies of India, have been received. The despatches are dated from China, November 14; Calcutta, December 22; and Bombay, January 1.

The intelligence from China is of a favourable character. The expedition had sailed northwards from Amoy on the 1st of September, and on the 1st of the ensuing month, Chusan, which had been very strongly fortified by the Chinese, was re-occupied without any serious opposition, and Ningpo, a city described as two-thirds the size of Canton, surrendered immediately afterwards without resistance.

The utmost tranquillity prevailed at Amoy, but at Canton, although the trade was proceeding quietly, an impression prevailed that further hostile measures would be necessary, and the conditions on which business was carried on were therefore highly unfavourable to the British merchants. The prices of teas were maintained at from 31 to 35 taels for Congous.

The following are extracts from the proclamations issued by Sir H. Pottinger on the occasions above mentioned:—

"The city of Tinghae, the capital of the Chusan group of islands, was yesterday re-occupied by her Majesty's forces."

"During the eight months that have elapsed since the island was evacuated by her Majesty's forces in February, 1841, the Chinese government appears to have exerted itself greatly to strengthen its defences. The whole sea face of the city is now one continued line of fortification, extending for nearly two miles, and redoubts and intrenched camps have been thrown up in every direction."

"The Chinese troops made a better attempt at resistance than they have hitherto done, but nothing could withstand the intrepid valour and discipline of her Majesty's combined forces, and in less than two hours the batteries were cleared, the city escalated, and the enemy flying in all directions."

"The city of Tinghae is situated at the mouth of the Tahea, or Ningpo river, and was covered so strongly by its citadel (a fort built on a lofty headland jutting into the sea), and a number of heavy batteries and outworks on each bank of the estuary, that the Imperial Commissioner, Yukein, who had come specially to defend it, and the other civil and military Chinese authorities, appear, from their proclamations, to have flattered themselves, even after their past and recent experience of the power of the British arms, that the place could not be taken; but they were, as on all previous occasions, speedily undeceived, and, although the Chinese troops displayed considerable bravery, and in many individual instances would neither retreat nor surrender, though deserted by their officers and comrades, the main bodies were driven from one rallying spot to another, and at length routed and entirely dispersed; whilst the fort and works were demolished or rendered utterly untenable by the overwhelming and beautiful practice of the squadron."

"It is reported that a great many of the Chinese officers of rank have fallen with a large number of men, but no precise information has as yet been obtained on this point. The Imperial Commissioner is stated to have attempted to drown himself immediately after the battle, and to have since died at a short distance inland from the effects of that attempt, or some other unexplained cause."

"It affords her Majesty's plenipotentiary the highest additional satisfaction to add, that this achievement has been happily effected with a much smaller loss on our side than could have been almost hoped for, there being only 5 killed and about 30 wounded of all arms of her Majesty's forces."

The intelligence which this express has brought is, so far as Afghanistan is concerned, of a disastrous and melancholy character. The details will be found very fully described in the subjoined monthly summary, from the *Bengal Hurkaru*.

"Almost the entire country is up in arms; rebellion is most rampant at the very palace gates of the Shah; a new sovereign has been

declared by the people; all efforts as yet have availed nothing to quell the insurrection; we have suffered heavy losses both in officers and men; and the whole of our troops beyond the Indus are in a most perilous position."

"Our readers will have gathered from our last budget, that, consequent on certain reductions made in the tribute paid to the Eastern Ghilzie tribes, for keeping open the passes between Cabul and Jellalabad, the people rose and took possession of the said passes; and that thereupon General Sale's brigade, which had been under orders for the provinces, was sent out to drive them from their position, and to re-open the communication. This, however, was an arduous duty, and attended with serious loss on our side. The brigade fought its way to Gundamuck, much harassed by the enemy from the high ground on either side of the passes; and, after 18 days, during which our men were almost incessantly engaged, they reached the above place, much shattered and exhausted; and thence, after further annoyances from the enemy, moved upon Jellalabad."

"In the meantime, whilst Sale's force was at Gundamuck, on the 2nd of November, an alarming insurrection broke out at Cabul."

"The first manifestation of the popular anger consisted in a murderous assault on a party of our officers, who were then leaving the Durbar. Sir A. Burnes, his brother, Lieutenant C. Burnes, and Lieutenant Broadfoot, of the European regiment, were massacred; and another officer, Lieutenant Stuart, of the engineers, cut down, in the very presence of the Shah Soojah himself. Soon the whole city was up in arms, the bazaars were plundered, the houses of our officers ransacked and their property destroyed, the treasury pillaged, and other depredations committed in the town; whilst another large party, chiefly Kuzzilkashes, we believe, attacked the British cantonments, which are situated about two miles from the town. The rebels are said to have declared one of Shah Zemaun's sons, king; and, our troops being divided—a portion of them in the cantonments, a portion of them in the Balah Hissar, and the enemy holding the town, which lies between two positions, we could make but little stand against the heavy current of the insurgents. The rebellion, at the date of the last advices, received from Cabul, (for one or two Cossids had made good their way to Peshawar,) had raged during seventeen days; but the force of it was unbroken. The British force at Cabul was weak, and the enemy most multitudinous. Several engagements had taken place, and our troops had distinguished themselves, but all to very little purpose. The enemy, at an early stage, got possession of the Commissariat godowns—two horse artillery guns had been sent to their defence; but, the ammunition failing, the stores were captured. Two of the Shah's guns were also taken by the enemy and turned against our party, and one of our magazines destroyed. On the 18th the insurrection, in spite of a partial victory achieved by us a few days before, was at its height; and though there seemed, at one time, some little hope of the Ghilzie portion of the confederacy being brought over to our side, at the date of the last intelligence affairs were still wearing a fearful aspect."

"Whilst these sad events were befalling us at the capital, our principal outposts were being attacked by the enemy. Charekur, which is to the north of Cabul, was besieged, and the single corps there posted, the Shah's 4th regiment, after a gallant defence, cut to pieces. All the officers attached to it, with the exception of one who escaped, severely wounded, were killed; and Lieutenant Rattray, the political agent at Kohistan, fell there also. About this same time, Captain Woodburn, with a party of 120 men, was proceeding from Ghuznee to Cabul, when he fell in with a large body of the insurgents, and the whole of his little band were massacred. Ali Musjid and Pesh Bolak, which lie on the eastern front of Afghanistan, between Peshawar and Jellalabad, were attacked also, but with no calamitous result; and Ghuznee, only garrisoned by a single regiment, has been beleaguered by the enemy; but, although evil reports are rife concerning it, we may hope that it is yet secure. In this posture of affairs, a brigade from Candahar has been sent, under Colonel Maclaren, to the relief of Cabul—an ill-judged and impolitic measure, for it could scarcely, under any circumstances, reach its destination in time to render the required assistance; and it is apprehended that the brigade, marching at such a season of the year, and through a line of country beset by our enemies, will be exposed to a series of disasters, fatal, perhaps, to the entire force. Whichever way we look beyond the Indus, clouds are bursting over our heads; and it is impossible to regard the present aspect of affairs without the most painful apprehensions. Strong re-inforcements are now being sent from the provinces; but they have a long and wearisome march before them; and it is scarcely to be expected that they will penetrate further than Peshawar before their progress is checked by the snows of winter. Our troops, cut off from all ready means of supply, are doomed, we fear, to suffer much from a want of food, as well as from a want of fuel, which during a Cabul winter, will be severely felt by all, and especially by the Hindostan soldiery, who are but little inured to the rigours of the north."

At the date of the late advices from Cabul, November 19, (says the *Chronicle*,) our troops had succeeded in checking the insurrection; but General Elphinstone and Sir William M'Naghten were obliged to remain in the entrenched camp in the city, not deeming themselves sufficiently strong to attempt any offensive operation. Ten regiments of European and native infantry were *en route* through the Punjaub, to effect a junction with Brigadier-General Sale in order to move upon Cabul.

## AMERICA.

In the Senate, on the 10th ult., Mr Calhoun offered a resolution, calling for information in regard to the case of the murder and mutiny on board of the Creole, and asking what steps the executive had taken in reference to the transactions, having for its object the punishment of the guilty, the redress of the wrong done to American citizens, and the insult offered to the American flag. On the 11th the resolution was taken up for consideration. Some debate having arisen on the proposal of an amendment to substitute "persons" for "slaves," Mr Calhoun condemned publications which had applauded and justified the mutiny and murder, the tendency and object of which were to fortify the pretensions of Great Britain in hostility to the rights of the United States. He warned the South to awaken from their lethargy, and to guard against combinations ever menacing their institutions. Several gentlemen having delivered their sentiments on the subject,



Mr Clay rose to deliver his. He had, he said, witnessed the occurrence on board the Creole with deep regret, because it added infinitely to existing difficulties with Great Britain. A case had occurred, in which by mutiny and murder a vessel was thrown in the power of Great Britain; were they to give up the murderers, or to indemnify the United States or not? If not, then Americans were denied the freedom of their own coasting trade, and no vessels could sail from one port to another in the Southern Atlantic border without incurring the risk of seizure. He hoped that Great Britain would see the necessity of doing America justice in this case. Mr Calhoun's resolution was adopted *nem. con.*

## BRAZILS.

Important news has been received from the Brazils. A formidable insurrection has taken place in the province of Paraiba, which threatened to extend along the northern frontiers of the Brazils. The Vice-President of Paraiba had been shot, while looking from his window, by the insurgents, and the greatest terror and excitement prevailed. The wealthy inhabitants had fled from the place in terror, and most of them had made their escape to Pernambuco for safety, taking with them every available description of property. The wife of the Vice-President had nearly shared the tragic end of her husband, but happily she escaped. This intelligence was brought to Liverpool on Wednesday by Captain Alsop, of the Rosalie, who left Paraiba on the 28th of December, and on the 20th of that month the steamer St Salvador arrived with the preceding intelligence.

## MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

**DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.**—On Tuesday night a fire broke out in the Kinning brewery, New South Lambeth road, Clapham road, which was attended with considerable damage. Shortly after the alarm had been given, the engines from various stations arrived in rapid succession, and a good supply of water having been obtained from the plugs around the brewery, the ravages of the destructive element were confined to the counting-house, which was completely burnt, as also the shed adjoining. The property is uninsured.—On the following evening, between seven and eight o'clock, a fire broke out on the premises of Mr Drew, latter, 60, Newington-causeway. The flames spread with great rapidity, and, by the time the engine from the Southwark Bridge road arrived, the whole of the house was in a blaze. Shortly after, the engines from the Waterloo road station, the West of England, and others of the brigade arrived, but there was some difficulty in procuring water. When obtained, the firemen exerted themselves with their usual vigour, but all hopes of saving Mr Drew's premises were at an end, and they used every exertion to save the adjoining premises. Mr Drew's premises are entirely gutted, and he has sustained a total loss of stock and furniture; he is insured in the County and Phoenix for £1000. The premises of Mr Matthews, stay-maker, are much damaged by fire and water; he is insured in the County. The house of Mr Good, straw-bonnet warehouse, No. 62, is also damaged.

**ACCIDENT BY THE FALLING OF A HOUSE.**—On Friday last, as some men were pulling down an old house in Charles street, Drury lane, the lower part of it gave way, and buried the whole of them in the ruins. One man and a boy were taken out of the ruins quite dead, and several were taken to Charing cross hospital, dreadfully bruised. Several persons, who were passing at the time, narrowly escaped with their lives, the street being very narrow.

**CASE OF STARVATION.**—On Wednesday, the 26th ult., an inquisition was taken in the parish of St Mary, Chester, on the body of Margaret Flanagan, who had been residing in Lancashire for the last twelve months, where she supported herself and two children by cap making. She had been induced by her distressed circumstances to pawn even the clothes off her back, in order to pay for her lodgings and obtain bread for herself and family. She left Preston on the previous Friday, with her daughters, for the purpose of seeing her mother, who resides in this city. On Monday week they walked from Birkenhead, and late on that evening they applied for a night's lodging at Sutton, but appealed in vain, as the people would not get up to let them in; they then walked on to Moston, where they arrived at 12 o'clock at night, and where they sat down on the road side. Deceased complained of fatigue, and said, "I do not think I shall ever get up again alive." The night was very cold and wet; she fell asleep with both her children by her side. The eldest, who is about 12 years of age, did not awake until morning, when she found that her mother had fallen into a gutter by the bank side, and was lying with her youngest girl upon her chest; on attempting to arouse her, it was discovered that she was quite dead. Verdict—"Died from hunger and exposure to the inclemency of the weather.—*Chester Courant.*"

**THE LATE HURRICANE.**—Within the last week accounts of the most deplorable description have been received by the authorities at Lloyd's, respecting the loss of an immense number of vessels during the late frightful hurricane, which has not been equaled for many years past. The sacrifice of human life has been very great, and it is feared, from the immense quantity of wreck that has since been washed on the coast, that many vessels foundered during the violence of the storm. It has been ascertained that upwards of 23 vessels were wrecked during the night of the 26th ult. A letter from Captain York, of the Mayflower, now at Ardber harbour, Clifden, communicates the melancholy intelligence of the loss of thirty-five fishing boats upon the same night, with crews of from five to six persons in each boat, making a total loss of life of 170 to 180 unfortunate persons. This event took place to the north of Sline Head.

**SINGULAR MESMERIC INFLUENCE.**—This town (Southampton) has recently been the theatre of an operation equally novel in nature, and interesting and important in its results. We allude to the extraction of a tooth and several stumps, from a patient in the state of mesmeric trance, which took place yesterday morning at the residence of the operator, Mr Prideaux, before a select party of medical men, who had been invited to be present. It appears that Mr Prideaux usually entrances the patient who was the subject of this operation in about five minutes; but on the present occasion, from the presence of strangers, and the slight interruption caused by the arrival of some of the spectators after the entrancing manipulations had commenced, the process occupied about twenty minutes. Shortly after perfect sleep-

walking was induced, the patient, at the request of the operator, arose from her seat by the fire and walked to the operating chair at the other end of the room, when the teeth and stumps were removed by Mr P., without the slightest manifestation of sensibility to pain on the part of the patient, whose hands were quietly reposing in her lap during the whole time; indeed, on being restored to consciousness (an operation effected in a few seconds), it was not till after an examination of the mouth with the tongue that she could credit the reality of the painless release from her tormentors. At a subsequent part of the day a similar operation was performed by Mr Prideaux on another patient, with similar results; and he informed us that on one occasion he had operated on a lady for three hours, total insensibility to pain being evinced during the whole period. Mr Prideaux expresses his confident expectation, that in the course of a few years the production of the mesmeric trance will be generally resorted to in all cases of severe surgical operations, and also that as the science advances means will be discovered by which all persons may be certainly subjected to its influence; and should those expectations be realised, great indeed will be the boon, which this at present embryo science is destined to confer upon suffering humanity.—*Hampshire Telegraph.*

**FALL OF AN AVALANCHE.**—A letter from Foix, in the Arriège, states that early in the morning of the 26th ult. an enormous avalanche fell from a height of 1,500 feet upon the hamlet of Artigues, near the Auzac, at the foot of the Pyrenees, and entirely destroyed all the houses, with the whole of the inhabitants. The intelligence of this dreadful calamity did not reach Auzac till the day after, on account of the remote position of the hamlet. Fifty of the inhabitants went to give what succour they could, but found only a few corpses out of the total number under the ruins of the houses. It is not said how many persons are supposed thus to have perished.

**DESPOTISM IN MARYLAND.**—From the *Michigan Signal of Liberty.*—The citizens of Howard district, in Maryland, are troubled with their slaves running away. A memorial to the legislature has been printed for circulation in that district, setting forth that the evil has so far progressed among them, by means of the tampering of the free negroes with the slaves, that either the slaveholder must abandon his property, or the legislature must afford a remedy, or they must right themselves by appealing to the first law of nature. The memorial suggests the following remedial measures as absolutely necessary:—

"No free negro must be allowed under any circumstances to come within the limits of the state, for any, the smallest period of time; that if any shall do so, he shall be a slave for life to the person who takes him up, and shall sell him out of the state; that if a free negro, so coming in, shall escape, he shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and be punished by the officers of the state; that all restriction upon the introduction of slaves for life into the state be at once removed; that no negro shall be allowed to be manumitted under any circumstances—the powers and rights of the Colonisation society being an absolute failure in this respect, as a portion of this district are unhappily made to know at this time from experience. That the railroad companies be prohibited from carrying in their cars any negro whatever, unless accompanied by a white man who claims such negro as a slave. That any free negro who shall pass beyond the limits of the state, shall be deemed a free negro from another state, on his return, and shall be in some way punished. That any person who shall attempt to deter or dissuade an officer or citizen from attempting to carry into effect the laws in relation to free negroes, or to discountenance him in, or bring contempt upon him for, doing the same, shall be severely fined for the benefit of the officer or citizen, whose duties shall be so interfered with. That the governor shall appoint five slaveholders in each election district and ward in the state, whose duty it shall be to see that the officers of the peace enforce the laws relative to the coloured population, and who shall annually report to the legislature, and particularly the number of runaway negroes, and what has prevented the capture of such as have escaped. And that the legislature require of Congress to pass laws to aid in securing the capture of runaway slaves, and particularly to prohibit negro testimony in such cases. And your memorialists further ask, that if the legislature should decline passing laws to this effect for the state, so far as they may be made applicable, they may be passed for Howard district."

## CASE OF THE CREOLE.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM JUDGE JAY TO JOSEPH STURGE, DATED NEW YORK, JAN. 6, 1842.

You will have heard before you receive this of the affair of the Creole, one of our coasting slavers. She left Virginia for New Orleans the last of October, with a cargo of 135 slaves; while on the voyage the slaves, or a portion of them, rose on the crew, and, after a slight struggle, became masters of the vessel. There were twelve white men, and only one was killed. The wounded, including the captain, were humanely treated by the negroes, who dressed their wounds. The vessel was carried into Nassau, where all the slaves were liberated, except nineteen concerned in the "mutiny," who were confined by the authorities to await the orders of the home government.

Our slaveholders are in great wrath, and mean, if possible, to terrify your government into a surrender of the nineteen murderers, that they may be suspended from Southern gibbets in *terrorem*. They will no doubt be demanded in peremptory terms by our minister in London. In my opinion, this surrender would be most disgraceful to Great Britain, most cruel, wicked, and pusillanimous.

Admitting them to be murderers, by what law is your government authorised to surrender to the United States nineteen human beings to be put to death? The law of nations does not require it. We made a treaty with you in 1794, by which each party agreed to surrender murderers; but that treaty expired, and since then we have refused to surrender murderers at the request of your government, as, for instance, in the case of the two Barnebees, who fled to this country from Ireland; and in the case of one Holmes, who committed a very atrocious murder in Canada. Also, in the case of the Armistad negroes, we refused to surrender the alleged murderers to the Spanish minister.

If you cannot surrender them as murderers, can you as fugitive slaves? If you surrender these men, on what plea can you afford protection to the 12,000 fugitives in Canada? Have we a right to claim favours we do not reciprocate? There is no law authorising the surrender of a foreign fugitive, and so far have we been hitherto from claiming the surrender by you of fugitives as a right, that we once offered to agree to surrender all fugitives from your West India islands, provided and on condition that you would bind yourselves by treaty to surrender such slaves as might flee to Canada. I mention these facts that you may see that the claim we shall prefer for the surrender of the Creole negroes is as contrary to international law as it is to the law of Almighty God. There is not one of the slaveholders, who are now thirsting for the blood of these negroes, who would in similar circumstances have scrupled to take human life. Do let your government and people understand the true state of the case. I do hope your ministry will listen to the dictates of justice, humanity, and national honour.



## LITERATURE.

*Congregationalism: or the Polity of Independent Churches, viewed in relation to the State and Tendencies of Modern Society.*  
By ROBERT VAUGHAN, D.D. London: Jackson and Walford.

DID we not feel assured that this little volume must command an extensive circulation among nonconformists of every class, we should, as in duty bound, enter largely into a consideration of its merits, not only as it is a fair and comprehensive exhibition of the theory of congregationalism, but as it exposes its existing abuses and defects, and offers suggestions as to the best means of correcting and supplying them. As this would be a superfluous task, we shall content ourselves with expressing our cordial approbation of the work as far as it goes. The writer has gone with us one mile, we should be glad to compel him to go with us twain. It is, however, due to him to remark, that with all his reserve on certain points on which we could have wished him to be more explicit, there is no compromise of principle, but a manly avowal and defence of congregationalism as opposed to every form of secularised Christianity.

Congregationalists who are drinking into the sacerdotal spirit, and who rather cherish than discourage the budding priestism which is lifting up its head and pushing out its horns among them, would do well to listen to Dr Vaughan, and to exemplify their principles in their conduct. Let them remember that congregationalism regards every church as a self-governed body, and as a body, accordingly, which should be pervaded by the amount of intellectual and moral culture necessary to that end. Its aim is to make all men Christians, and to render all Christians competent to a wise observance of the duties which arise out of the Christian fellowship. It does not resemble an Eastern despotism, where every thing was to be done for the people, and nothing to be done by them; but may be compared, rather, to one of those free states, in which men were accounted citizens, in which each citizen had his public duties to discharge, and all were to pass through a preparatory education, that they might know how to discharge them. Thus it is with congregationalism. "It has its different spheres, for those who hold offices, and for those who possess greater ability or greater weight of character than their brethren; but it has no place for the utterly passive and useless, and none, accordingly, for minds without instruction or without virtue."

It affords us pleasure to observe that Dr Vaughan recognises complete suffrage, or equal and universal representation, to be the basis of good government, and essential to public freedom; though we think he regards it rather as the *ultimatum* to be wrought out by the gradual and silent operation of their principles, than as demanding from congregationalists immediate, direct, and strenuous efforts to obtain it. The following is the passage to which we refer:—

"We do not hesitate to say, that there is scarcely a vestige of systematic liberty in the world—liberty defined by law, liberty in the sense of giving protection to the weak against the strong, and liberty, above all, on the side of the governed against the tyranny of the governing, which has not been wrung by the popular elements of society, from the hold of its more presiding elements. There have been nobles and monarchs who have assisted the people in these struggles, sometimes from selfish motives, and sometimes for purposes the most generous and patriotic, but in the main the conflict has been as above stated; and nations have become free, in proportion as they have been able to give power to the representative principle, along with the other elements of society, and only in that proportion. The representative principle may rarely appear to be all that it should be. But without it nothing is as it should be. It may not seem to be perfect, but it is the only power that has proved effectual permanently to diminish the evils which must otherwise blight and destroy humanity without end. It may have its defects, its faults, its revolting abuses; but it precludes greater evils, and brings an amount of good which nothing else can bring."

"In the history of crowned heads, wisdom and patriotism will be the exception, and not the rule; and in the history of an aristocracy, the permanence of sagacity and power will naturally be the permanence of efficiency to rule for a class more than for the people. To expect that it should be otherwise, is to expect against nature. If a nation, therefore, is to possess a system of liberty, the nation must realise it, and realise it through the medium of a representative government. Our own nation has acted under this impression, with more or less intelligence, during the last three centuries. The result is the present power of the British House of Commons, and the security of our property and persons by law, in place of being dependent upon the accidents of the royal pleasure, or on court favour. We owe next to nothing in this form to our princes of the Tudor and Stuart dynasties, but everything to the English people, aided by the generous sympathy of a large portion of our gentry and nobles."

"Now the tendency of society to leaven itself more and more with an element of this nature is everywhere observable. Great resistance is made to it, but its course is still, upon the whole, onward. Its intervals of seeming retrocession, are more such in appearance than in fact, and seem to be among the means appointed to favour its safer progress. Mankind are not likely to unlearn what they have learnt in this respect; and with everything wholesome of this sort that is, or that is likely to be, congregationalism is in the strictest unison. It will everywhere be strong in the strength of such principles."

"The congregational church retains the right of choosing its own officers, and managing its own affairs; and the social policy which aims to elevate the people, and which gives them a suffrage in public affairs, to the extent in which they may be expected to make a wise use of that power, is assuredly so much of social congregationalism."—pp. 28—30.

We respectfully ask Dr Vaughan, if congregationalists to be consistent with their professed principles, must practically, in their own institutions, carry out the doctrine of fair and equal representation, why they should hesitate to do the same as members of the body politic? While it is the duty of every Briton to oppose complete suffrage to class legislation, we solemnly believe that it is religiously bound upon the soul and conscience of every consistent dissenter.

Dr Vaughan will be the last to blame us in this matter, either on the ground of religious principle or political right; for he has ably dealt with the nonsensical and absurd imputation so often cast upon

those nonconformists who deem it incumbent upon them to struggle in the public arena against civil and ecclesiastical tyranny—that they are "political dissenters." He says—

"As there is an alliance between the political and the religious in every established church, it is unavoidable that the conduct of those who dissent from such churches will be influenced by considerations that will be at once political and religious. Dissenters, accordingly, are political, not in the first instance, but simply because they are constrained to dissent from a political institute called an established church. It is not the dissenter, in consequence, who brings politics into religion, but his opponent. The earnest wish of the dissenter is to see religion separated from every such adjunct, and to see the peer and the populace alike employed in providing for the religious instruction of the country, without seeking help of worldly politicians in any way. But the struggle of the churchman is directed towards a strictly opposite result. Thus the dissenter is political by accident, because the churchman is political upon principle. It is the upholding of this mixed state of things among churchmen, which creates the necessity for a mixed opposition to it among dissenters. It is, we repeat, somewhat hard, that politics should be thus forced upon us, and that our endeavour to deal with these religious politics, in the manner of religious politicians, should be made the theme of so much reproach."—pp. 138, 139.

In England congregationalism is necessarily dissenterism, and its character to a certain extent must be political. As a principle it must work till it achieve the perfect civil and religious liberty of all whose rights are trampled on by the dominant hierarchy, which has always been determined to crush both the one and the other, and is now more rampant and persecuting in spirit than ever. On all the grounds which Dr Vaughan has so ably stated and defended, "We see reason to hold fast to our congregationalism, as the true ordinance of God, and as carrying with it elements of law and order, which are not better adapted to secure purity and strength to the church, than to expand, invigorate, and ennoble the most enlightened institutes which have hitherto obtained among the kingdoms of this world."

With this quotation we conclude our brief notice of a work which we cordially recommend to all who would understand the nature of congregationalism, not as it is exhibited in some modern dissenting communities, but as its principles are fairly drawn from the New Testament, and based upon it. The second book, and especially the last chapter, are pre-eminently valuable. Let congregational churches "mark, learn, and inwardly digest them." We ought to observe that the spirit of scriptural piety, blended with holy wisdom, which pervades the entire volume, must endear the author to every devout reader, however opposed he may be to his peculiar views.

*Sermons by the late Rev. Luke Forster, of Saffron Walden: with a Sketch of his Life, by the Rev. JOHN ELY, of Leeds.* London: Jackson and Walford.

THE Rev. Luke Forster commenced his ministry at an early period, and closed it before he had reached his fortieth year. He was a man of an amiable disposition, warm-hearted, and capable of the most devoted friendship. As a pastor he was faithful, affectionate, and diligent. As a preacher his sermons were sufficiently intellectual, without being profound. They were pure in doctrine, and always breathed an evangelical spirit, and not unfrequently they were distinguished by power and pathos. If not of the highest order of pulpit eloquence, they were listened to with earnest attention, and followed by the most beneficial results. The specimens of them contained in this posthumous volume are every way worthy of the superior talents and exemplary piety of their author. They are twelve in number, and on subjects of peculiar interest. We particularly direct the attention of our readers to two—one entitled, "The sin against the Holy Ghost,"—the other, "Job's confidence in the Redeemer." In common with all who knew him, we mourn his loss to his family, and the people of his charge. A widow and an only daughter are left to feel the bitter pangs of separation from one who every day became more and more endeared to their hearts. The church and congregation at Saffron Walden, while they could not but painfully regard the almost sudden removal of their pastor, yet were sustained by a consolation not always enjoyed by persons in their circumstances—their pastor died in spite of their kindness, and not in consequence of any harsh or illiberal treatment he had ever experienced at their hands. If the affections of a flock could have had power to detain their shepherd from the skies, the Rev. Luke Forster would now be labouring among his beloved people at Saffron Walden.

It is not only on account of the intrinsic excellence of this volume that we cordially recommend it; but its extensive circulation is in a pecuniary point of view of considerable importance to the surviving family of its lamented author.

## LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

1. *The Contrast: Monopoly and Monopolists tested by the example of Jesus Christ.*
2. *Affections of the Head.* By J. EPPS.
3. *Mental Culture.*
4. *What to Teach and How to Teach it.*
5. *Watts's Psalms and Hymns.* New Edition.
6. *The Royal Baptism; a Dialogue.*
7. *The Church and its Exactions.*
8. *A Summary of the Principles, Objects and Means of Radicalism.*
9. *Our Rights: or the Just Claims of the Working Classes.*
10. *The Violated Sacred Pledge.*
11. *Connexion of Sacred and Profane History.* By D. DAVIDSON.
12. *Dictionary of the Bible.* By D. DAVIDSON.
13. *Paxton's Illustration of Scripture—Manners and Customs.* 2 vols.
14. *The Rebel Provost.* By "ARGUS."
15. *Tracts of Truth.* No. 1.
16. *Tail's Edinburgh Magazine* for February.
17. *Hope's British Monthly Magazine,* February.
18. *State of Education, Crime, &c., and proposed National Training Schools for all England and Wales.*



19. *Polytechnic Journal*, February.  
 20. *Pictures of Popular People*, No. 1.  
 21. *The Martyr of Erromanga*; or, the Philosophy of Missions. Illustrated from the Labours, Death, and Character of the Rev. John Williams. By JOHN CAMPBELL, D.D.  
 22. *Home Missionary Magazine*, February.  
 23. *Zaida: a Tale of Granada*; and minor Poems. By LEWIS EVANS.

## RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

On Tuesday, January 25, the members of the church and congregation assembling in the independent chapel, Star lane, Stamford, Lincolnshire, held a social tea meeting in their new and commodious school room, when they deputed Mr Ashley, the deacon of the church, to present to their minister, the Rev. Thos Islip, a purse containing £30 for a new year's gift, as a testimony of high esteem for the character and services of their much respected and beloved pastor.

Mr Edward Griffith, of Highbury college, has accepted a unanimous invitation from the church and congregation assembling in the English independent chapel, Merthyr Tydvil, and intends to commence his pastoral labours on the first Sabbath in April.

The Rev. E. Price, of Hackney college, has accepted an invitation from the church and congregation assembling at Bethel chapel, Sheerness, and entered upon his labours on the 6th inst.

The services, on the first anniversary of the opening of East Parade chapel, Leeds, under the pastoral charge of the Rev. John Ely, terminated on Sunday week, by two impressive sermons from the Rev. Robert Halley, LL.D., when the collections, including those of the Wednesday preceding, amounted to the sum of £516 10s.

A letter has lately been received from Mr Baker, at Mauritius, containing some account of the Christians, who are still suffering cruel persecution in Madagascar. On the one hand, these accounts are cheering and encouraging, as proving that God is preserving there a faithful band, and even augmenting its numbers, notwithstanding the "fiery trials" to which it is constantly exposed. On the other, the accounts are calculated to awaken deep sympathy and fervent prayer. The sufferings of the little flock are truly severe; and they are, evidently, enduring far more than they are able to describe. The expressions of their faith and patience, and of their attachment to the holy volume, the source of their consolation, are truly delightful.—*Evangelical Magazine*.

## BIRTH.

Jan. 30, the wife of the Rev. J. B. PIKE, of Newbury, of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

Jan. 26, at the independent meeting, Bideford, Mr J. MULLINGS, son of Thos Mullings, Esq., of Trowbridge, to Miss SARAH JANE CROSSCOMBE, of the former place.

Feb. 1, by license, at the baptist chapel, Coate, by the Rev. B. Wheeler, Mr JOHN GILES, of Gaunt house, Oxon, to Miss ELEANOR PINNOCK, youngest daughter of the late Mr John Pinnock, of Standlake, Oxon.

Feb. 3, at the independent chapel, Dewsbury, by the Rev. George Waterhouse, Mr PHILIP CRAWSHAW, Dewsbury, to ELIZABETH, third daughter of Mr Abraham ARCHER, Ossett.

Feb. 5, at Stepney, by the Rev. E. James, the Rev. EDWARD HEWETT, of Stepney college, to ELIZA, the second surviving daughter of the late Mr STOWER, of Gracechurch street, London.

## DEATHS.

Jan. 28, aged 75, Mr JOHN BEAUMONT, of Cloak lane, London, and for many years one of the deacons of the church of Christ assembling in Barbican chapel.

Jan. 29, aged 68, THOMAS MAWDSLEY, Esq., of Southport, Lancashire, for many years a member of the independent church in that place.

Feb. 3, aged 90 years, ALEXANDER CRUICKSHANK, Esq., of Edinburgh. He was a warm friend to every philanthropic object.

Feb. 4, Sir GEORGE SHIFFNER, Bart, at Coombe park, Sussex, at the advanced age of 79 years.

Jan. 27, aged 41, after four months' illness, the Rev. SAMUEL BLAIR, late minister of Cook's ground chapel, Chelsea, and formerly of Wilsden, in Yorkshire.

Feb. 6, at Great Missenden, Bucks, in the 31st year of her age, KATHARINE, the wife of the Rev. David MARSH, baptist minister. Her end was peace.

## TRADE AND COMMERCE.

## LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, February 4.

## INSOLVENT.

THOMPSON, WILLIAM, Princes street, Spitalfields, hat manufacturer, Feb. 4.

## BANKRUPT.

BUCKETT, JAMES, Great Bourton, Oxfordshire, sheep dealer, to surrender Feb. 21, March 18: solicitors, Messrs Cox and Williams, 62, Lincoln's inn fields, London, and Messrs Walford and Beesley, Manchester.

CHESHIRE, THOMAS, Smethwick, Staffordshire, miller, Feb. 11, March 18: solicitors, Messrs Tooke and Son, 39, Bedford row, London, and Messrs Unett and Sons, Birmingham.

CLARKE, JOSEPH CHARLES, Water lane, Great Tower street, City, wine, spirit, and beer merchant, Feb. 11, March 18: solicitor, Mr Donne, 28, New Broad street.

DAVIES, DAVID, sen., and DAVID, jun., Glanclywedog, Montgomeryshire, flannel manufacturers, Feb. 23, March 18: solicitors, Messrs Drew and Woosman, Newtown, and Mr H. Weeks, Cook's court, Lincoln's inn, London.

HAYWARD, JOHN, Milverton, Warwickshire, miller, Feb. 14, March 18: solicitors, Messrs Rushworth, 10, Staple inn, London, and Mr A. T. Forder, Leamington.

HEAP, WILLIAM, and ROBERTS, JOHN and WILLIAM, Padiham, Lancashire, cotton spinners, Feb. 22, March 18: solicitors, Messrs Cragg and Jeyes, 4, Harpur street, Red Lion square, London, and Messrs Alcock and Dixon, Burnley.

IRWIN, RICHARD and JOHN GOULD, Manchester, drapers, Feb. 19, March 18: solicitors, Messrs Slater and Heelis, Manchester, and Messrs Milne and Co., Temple, London.

MALLAN, EDWARD, late of Great Russell street, Bloomsbury, dentist, Feb. 16, March 18: solicitor, Mr Whittington, 2, Dean street, Finsbury square.

NASH, JONATHAN and ROBERT LUCAS, Bristol, brewers, March 1, 18: solicitors, Messrs Goldrey and Fellowes, Chippenham, Wiltshire, and Messrs Hillier and Co., 6, Raymond buildings, Gray's inn, London.

REDDON, THOMAS and GEORGE, Calthorpe place, Gray's inn road, upholsterers, Feb. 11, March 18: solicitors, Messrs Lawrance and Blenkarne, 32, Bucklersbury.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

MOWAT, ANDREW, Glasgow, tea dealer, Feb. 10, March 3.

M'QUEEN, WILLIAM, Inverkeithing, shipwright, Feb. 6, March 1.

## DIVIDENDS.

Feb. 25, Robertshaw and Rutherford, Oxford street, hosiers—Feb. 25, Gamauf, 30, Fetter lane, wholesale furrier—Feb. 25, Smith and Monteath, Oxford street, linen drapers—Feb. 28, Marris and Nicholson, Barton-upon-Humber, Lincolnshire, bankers—Feb. 26, Heap, jun., Manchester, merchant—Feb. 28, Welch and Sells, New Islington, Manchester, cotton spinners—March 1, Medley, Leeds, oil merchant—Feb. 25, Wrigglesworth, Leeds, cheese and bacon factor—March 1, Caton, Preston, Lancashire, ironmonger—March 3, Burnard, Bideford, Devonshire, merchant—March 26, T. and W. H. Carr, Dewsbury moor, woollen manufacturers—March 1, Andrews, Humminster Marshall, Dorsetshire, woolstapler—March 4, Lucas, Bristol, ironmonger—Feb. 26, S. J., and J. Chadwick, Heywood, Lancashire, cotton spinners—Feb. 28, Reuss, Liverpool, merchant—Feb. 26, Mead, Liverpool, iron merchant—March 14, Traugmar, Brighton, Sussex, tea dealer.

## CERTIFICATES—FEB. 25.

Lunn, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, ship and insurance broker—Griffiths, late of 82, Quadrant, but now of 1, Leicester street, Regent street, milliner—Powell, Brighton, Sussex, linen draper—Schwabacher, North American coffee-house, Minorities, dealer in cigars—J. J., and H. Buckley, Manchester and Todmorden, Lancashire, cotton and worsted manufacturers—Stockdale, late of 6, Crosby square, London, merchant—Tapp, 3, Great

White Lion street, St Giles's, licensed victualler—Botham, late of Speenhamland, Berkshire, innholder.

## PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

T. and S. Manlove, lace manufacturers—Farren and Till, brewers, London—P. and D. Walther, 15, Angel court, Throgmorton street—Lewis and Lloyd, Gloucester, vinegar merchants—Hartry and Hague, 41, St Martin's lane, dentists—Huffman and Co., Manchester, tailors (so far as regards Nourse)—Robinson and Son, Halesworth, Suffolk, tailors—T. and J. M. Goodyear, 7, Aldersgate street, straw hat manufacturers—Fryer and Kendray, 77, Chancery lane, wine and spirit merchants—Arnold and Burn, attorneys—Burgin and Broadhead, Sheffield, scissor manufacturers—Shaw and Phillips, 47, Fish street hill, attorneys—H. and H. Ellis, Fetcham, Surrey, millers—W. S. S., J., and J. Jackson, Leeds, tobacco manufacturers (so far as regards Joseph Jackson)—Muspratt and Co., Parr, Lancashire, coal proprietors (so far as regards Speakman and Bromilow)—C. and H. Matchitt, Salford, cotton dealers—J. F. and J. Parkin, Sheffield, engravers—Kitching and Co., Manchester, straining cloth manufacturers—Bornforth and Taylor, East Stockwith, Lincolnshire, ship builders—Percy and Fletcher Nottingham, wine merchants—I. and W. Green, 41, London wall, saddlers' ironmongers—Elgin and Heseltine, York, druggists—Fuller and Allen, Manchester, fustian manufacturers—Puddick and Coleman, Adelphi chambers, Strand, wine merchants—Clive and Cardall, Birmingham, malleable iron founders—Fisher and Armour, 1, Freeman's court, Cornhill.

Tuesday, February 8.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act 6 and 7 Wm IV., cap. 85:—

The independent chapel, Martock, Somersetshire. Elias Whitby, superintendent registrar.

Newton chapel, Newton, Herefordshire. Nicholas Lanwarne, superintendent registrar.

## INSOLVENTS.

JEENS, HENRY MORLAND, Uley, Gloucestershire, clothier and commission agent.

## BANKRUPTS.

APPLEYARD, THOMAS, Northwram, Yorkshire, stone merchant, Feb. 25, March 22: solicitors, Messrs Jaques and Co., 8, Ely place, London.

BLACKMORE, RICHARD, and CRAVEN, JOHN, Wakefield, Yorkshire, corn millers, Feb. 15, March 22: solicitors, Mr John Preston, 12, Tokenhouse yard, London, and Mr James Witham, Wakefield.

BOWER, WILLIAM, Wilmslow, Cheshire, cotton spinner, Feb. 21, March 22: solicitors, Messrs Slater and Heelis, Manchester, and Messrs Milne and Co., Temple, London.

BOWERS, JOHN, Chipstead, Kent, grocer, Feb. 19, March 22: solicitor, Mr Cattlin, Ely place, Holborn.

CANTOR, CHARLES AUGUSTUS, late of Calcutta, but now of Montague street, Montague square, merchant, Feb. 15, March 22: solicitors, Messrs. Brundrett and Co., 10, King's Bench walk, Temple.

GIBBS, JOHN, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, tavernkeeper, Feb. 11, March 22: solicitors, Messrs White and Borrett, 35, Lincoln's inn fields, South, London, and Messrs Worship and Son, Great Yarmouth.

GIFFORD, GEORGINA, late of Parson's green, Fulham, schoolmistress, Feb. 22, March 22: solicitor, Mr Tyrrell, Guildhall.

GREENWELL, JOSEPH, and GREENWELL, STEPHEN, Shadforth mill and Crime house, Shadforth, and Sherburn, Durham, millers, lime burners, graziers, and quarrymen, March 10, 22: solicitors, Mr John Rogerson, 24, Norfolk street, Strand, London; Messrs Marshalls, Durham, and Mr William Marshall, Claypath, Durham.

HALLILEY, EDWARD, Leeds, cloth manufacturer, Feb. 18, March 22: solicitors, Messrs Savery and Co., Bristol, and Messrs Hornby and Towgood, St Swithin's lane, London.

HIGGINS, JOHN and MANNOCK, JAMES, Duckenfield, Cheshire, engineers, Feb. 24, March 22: solicitors, Mr John Spinks, 18, John street, Bedford row, London, and Mr Henry Gartside, Ashton-under-Lyne.

LITTLEBYKE, RICHARD, 41, Brudenell place, New North road, linen draper, Feb. 17, March 22: solicitors, Messrs Sole, Aldermanbury.

MILLER, JOSEPH, and CAMPION, JOHN, Stockton-on-Tees, and CRADDOCK, GEORGE, Darlington, Durham, patent sail cloth manufacturers, March 4, 22: solicitors, Messrs Bartrum and Son, 112, Bishopsgate street within.

PROTHEROE, JOHN, jun., Bristol, iron and tin merchant, and commission agent, Feb. 18, March 22: solicitors, Messrs Clarke and Medcalf, 20, Lincoln's-inn fields, London, and Mr Brooke Smith, Bristol.

ROBINS, WILLIAM, Stone, Staffordshire, ironmonger, Feb. 18, March 22: solicitors, Mr Edward Tayleur Dickenson, Stone, Staffordshire, and Mr George Smith, 48, Chancery lane, London.

SCHLESINGER, MORRIS, and SAMUEL, 64, Basinghall street, merchants, Feb. 15, March 22: solicitors, Messrs J. C. and H. Freshfield, New Bank buildings.

THOMPSON, GEORGE, and FORBES, JAMES, 41, Crutchedfriars, London, corn factors, Feb. 19, March 22: solicitor, Mr G. H. Taylor, 5, Nicholas lane, Lombard street.

VAILE, WILLIAM, 83, Oxford street, laceman, Feb. 15, March 22: solicitors, Messrs Beaumont and Thompson, 19, Lincoln's inn fields.

WATERS, RICHARD, Newport, Monmouthshire, iron and tin plate manufacturer and money scrivener, Feb. 24, March 22: solicitors, Mr Thomas Morgan, Llewellyn, Newport, and Messrs White and Eyre, 11, Bedford row, London.

WOODCOCK, JOHN, Stratford, Essex, builder, Feb. 15, March 22: solicitor, Mr Plews, 32, Bucklersbury.

WILLOUGHBY, JOHN RIVIS, York, builder, Feb. 15, March 22: solicitors, Messrs Johnson and Co., 7, Queen's Bench walk, Temple, London, and Mr George Leeman, York.

WHITBY, LUKE, Green Dragon yard, Whitechapel, builder, Feb. 17, March 22: solicitors, Messrs Dickson and Overbury, Frederick's place, Old Jewry.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

CAMPBELL, DANIEL, Glasgow, spirit dealer, Feb. 11, March 11.

LIZARS, ROBERT, formerly of Leith, boot and shoe maker, but now of Linlithgow, glue manufacturer, Feb. 14, March 7.

LLOYD, JOHN, Leith, merchant, Feb. 16, March 9.

M'MILLAN, JAMES, Greenock, ship builder, Feb. 14, March 7.

MURDOCH, JAMES, Carbieston Byers, grain and hay merchant, Feb. 11, March 4.

SINCLAIR, DUGALD, Glasgow, hotel and innkeeper, Feb. 11, March 4.

THOMSON, WILLIAM, Edinburgh, baker, Feb. 11, March 4.

WYLLIE, WILLIAM, North Leckaway, Forfarshire, Feb. 14, March 14.

YOUNG, JOHN, Edinburgh, boot maker, Feb. 15, March 8.

## DIVIDENDS.

March 3, Smith and Marshall, Austin friars, City, Russia brokers—March 3, Bridgman and Dryland, Upper Chapman street, St George's East, tallow melters—March 3, Ingram, Beech street, Barbican, timber merchant—March 3, Jones, late of Castellan and Mortlake, Surrey, and now of Bayswater terrace, Middlesex, coal merchant—March 2, Smith, Deptford bridge, Kent, hatter—March 2, Brooks, late of 421, Oxford street, but now of 28, Robert street, Hampstead road, stationer—March 1, J. and P. Grant, Coleman street, City, merchants—March 1, Andrews, Sturminster Marshall, Dorsetshire, woolstapler—March 14, Hoskins, Liverpool, victualler, but now of Manchester—March 3, Holt, Grantham, Lincolnshire, wine merchant—March 3, Jackson, Liverpool, wool merchant—March 2, H. Mackay, Liverpool, and A. F. Mackay, Glasgow, merchants—March 11, Hodgson and Wright, Glossop, Derbyshire, cotton spinners.

## CERTIFICATES.—MARCH 1.

Eskrigge, Warrington, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer—Biddulph, 6, Henrietta street, Covent garden, London, banker—Ford, Bristol, cooper—M'Swiney, formerly of Essex House, Tonbridge Wells, Kent, builder—Maddox, Watling street, London, warehouseman—Jones, 48, Friday street, Cheapside, London, linen warehouseman—Reed, late of Marquis court, Drury lane, London, victualler—H. and R. Hildyard, Brigg, Lincolnshire, wine merchants—Gandy, 16, Prince's street, Spitalfields, London silk manufacturers—Soulby—Weston, Wood street, London warehouseman—Senior, Liverpool, iron merchant.

## PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Wheatcroft and Co., Bulbridge, Derbyshire, stone and marble quarriers—A. and D. Wheatcroft, Buckland hollow and Cromford, Derbyshire, and of Birmingham, Sheffield, and Nottingham, wharfingers and general carriers—Brown and Wilson, Monk Wearmouth shore, Durham, ship and insurance brokers—Holsgrove and Thompson, Bishop Wearmouth, Durham, chain manufacturers—J. and H. Lainson, Deptford, Kent, linen drapers—Lainson and Co., Rotherhithe, Surrey, linen drapers—J. and W. K. Shaw, Dale, Yorkshire, manufacturers—M'Creeken and Broadbent, Leicester, stone masons—Nuttall and Holden, Belper, Derbyshire, manufacturers of patent straps for trousers—Wills and Stait, 26, South street, Manchester square, butchers—R. and G. Whitley, Halifax, Yorkshire, hat manufacturers—Jackson and Co., Leeds, tobacco manufacturers (so far as regards J. Jackson)—Phillips and Harris, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, drapers—Holden and Hobday, Chorley, Lancashire, muslin manufacturers—C. E. and J. M. Frames, Gosport and Portsmouth, Hampshire, grocers—Waghorn and Brown, Ewell, Surrey, brick makers—A. and A. Kerslake, Leamington Priors, Warwickshire, milliners—Walters and Moseley, Neath, Glamorganshire, cabinet makers—Turner and Co., Oakham, Rutlandshire, mercers—Morgan and Savage, 146, Oxford street, lacemen—M'Laine and Louch, 50, Tottenham court road, frame makers—Davies and Cotgreave, Chester, law stationers—Dixon and Co., Sheffield merchants (so far as regards J. Dixon).



## BRITISH FUNDS.

There were a few transactions last week by the Chancery brokers, since which the stock market has borne a very inactive aspect. Still, prices of stock gradually, though slowly, improved, until the arrival of the foreign mail, when, as was to be expected, the value of the public securities was depressed by the India news, and the buoyancy previously observable has in consequence temporarily disappeared.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols.....	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89
Ditto for Account.....	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½	89½
3 per cents. Reduced.....	89½	89½	90	89½	89½	89½
3½ per cents. Reduced.....	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½	99½
New 3½ per cent.....	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½
Long Annuities.....	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock.....	168	167½	—	—	168	168
India Stock.....	—	247½	—	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills.....	16 pm	19 pm	17 pm	19 pm	17 pm	17 pm
India Bonds, 3 per cent.....	11 pm	11 pm	11 pm	—	10 pm	11 pm

## FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian.....	—	Mexican.....	31
Belgian.....	103	Peruvian.....	15½
Brazilian.....	63½	Portuguese 5 per cents.....	55½
Buenos Ayres.....	18½	Ditto 3 per cents.....	20
Columbian.....	22½	Russian.....	115½
Danish.....	—	Spanish Active.....	24½
Ditto 2½ per cents.....	51½	Ditto Passive.....	5½
Ditto 5 per cents.....	101½	Ditto Deferred.....	12½

## SHARES.

Railways—		London and Brighton.....	36½
Birmingham and Derby.....	58	London and Croydon Trunk.....	12
Birmingham and Gloucester.....	64	London and Greenwich.....	6½
Blackwall.....	11½	Ditto New.....	18
Bristol and Exeter.....	35	Manchester and Birmingham.....	28
Cheltenham and Gt. Western.....	15	Manchester and Leeds.....	76
Eastern Counties.....	9	Midland Counties.....	82
Edinburgh and Glasgow.....	—	Ditto Quarter Shares.....	26
Great North of England.....	—	North Midland.....	72
Great Western.....	86	Ditto New.....	35
Ditto New.....	60½	South Eastern and Dover.....	26
Ditto Fifths.....	9½	South Western.....	59
London and Birmingham.....	170	Ditto New.....	10½
Ditto Quarter Shares.....	35		

## MARKETS.

## GRAIN, MARK LANE, Feb. 7.

We had a very moderate supply of wheat and flour during the last week, and very little fresh for this morning's market. The condition of the English wheat being still very indifferent, it was difficult of disposal, and prices barely supported. Free foreign not quite so free a sale as last week, but the market is firm, and prices are not lower.

There is no change in the value of flour.  
The supply of barley is very large, and none, but the very best samples could be readily disposed of. Such, however, are fully as dear as last week; the inferior descriptions are a heavy sale at scarcely so good prices.  
Beans and peas are in fair supply for the season, and good quality fully supports its late value; fine boiling peas are a shade better.

The arrivals of oats are large, and the market continues much depressed.  
The best qualities of English and Irish corn are saleable at a decline of 6d. per qr, but the lowest qualities of Irish are difficult of disposal, and must be quoted 1s. per qr lower since this day week.

Wheat, Red New 51 to 63	Malt, Ordinary.. 50 to 53	Beans, Old..... 34 to 40
Fine..... 64 to 68	Pale..... 58 to 64	Harrow..... 34 to 42
White..... 52 to 64	Peas, Hog..... 30 to 32	Oats, Feed..... 22 to 24
Fine..... 64 to 69	Maple..... 32 to 34	Fine..... 25 to 28
Rye..... 34 to 38	Boilers..... 36 to 38	Poland..... 23 to 27
Barley..... 24 to 28	Beans, Ticks..... 29 to 32	Potato..... 23 to 27
Malting..... 30 to 34		

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR FEB. 4.	AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF SIX WEEKS.	DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN FOR THE PRESENT WEEK.
Wheat..... 60s. 7d.	Wheat..... 62s. 3d.	Wheat..... 24s. 8d.
Barley..... 28 3	Barley..... 29 4	Barley..... 18 4
Oats..... 20 1	Oats..... 20 6	Oats..... 16 9
Rye..... 37 4	Rye..... 41 6	Rye..... 8 0
Beans..... 33 4	Beans..... 35 2	Beans..... 16 9
Peas..... 34 2	Peas..... 35 5	Peas..... 16 9

## SEEDS.

Notwithstanding a continued want of animation in the demand for cloverseed, the holders remain extremely firm, and the few parcels which changed hands to-day brought quite as much money as could have been realised last Monday. Linseed and rapeseed moved off in retail to the seedsmen at previous terms. Canary was rather more plentiful, but not cheaper.

## PROVISIONS, LONDON, Feb. 7.

Our market last week was depressed and discouraging. The business transacted in butter was only to a moderate extent, but it is going more freely into consumption, the price being reduced wholesale and retail, and is likely in consequence to increase the demand. The prices have been irregular and unsteady, but the following are about the prevailing rates landed: viz., Carlow, 84s. to 94s.; Waterford, 80s. to 90s.; Cork, 88s. to 92s.; Limerick, 80s. to 84s.; and other kinds in proportion. Bacon has attracted very little attention, is in less demand, and the price lower 1s. per cwt; 49s. to 54s. landed are the current prices, but the latter is not readily obtained except for choice qualities. Scarcely any buyers on board, even on reduced terms. 48s. has been taken for Limerick sizeable, and part heavy bale and tierce middles are dull at 49s. to 50s. landed, and at 47s. to 48s. on board. Lard declines in value and demand. Hams move slowly, and are not so good in price. The dealers in mess pork refuse to purchase more on board at the late currency, and the sale landed is trifling.

## HOPS, BOROUGH, Feb. 7.

The demand for hops continues to bear upon the more favourite qualities of Goldings, and the qualities of 1839 and 1840 appear to have been almost entirely cleared off, or to be at least in the hands of the consumers, and therefore not brought to market. Prices are supported.

## BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Feb. 7.

The arrivals of beasts this morning being very numerous, the weather unfavourable to the stock, and the attendance of buyers limited, we have to report a very heavy demand for beef; and, in order to effect sales, a decline on last week's quotations, of from 2d. to 4d. per 8lbs., was submitted to by the salesmen, while a clearance was not effected without the greatest difficulty. We had a fair average number of sheep offering, the trade with which was dull, but no variation was noticed in last week's currencies; the prime old Downs realising 5s. per 8lbs. The veal trade was dull, and the inferior calves might have been purchased on easier terms. Pigs moved off freely, on full prices.

Beef.....	3s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.	Veal.....	5s. 6d. to 6s. 4d.
Mutton.....	3 8 5 0	Pork.....	4 6 5 2

## HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday.....	567	2,120	82	412
Monday.....	3,088	21,010	54	319

## NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Feb. 7.

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.			
Inferior Beef.....	3s. 0d. to 3s. 2d.	Inferior Mutton.....	3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.
Middling ditto.....	3 2 3 4	Middling ditto.....	3 10 4 2
Prime large ditto.....	3 4 3 6	Prime ditto.....	4 4 4 6
Prime small ditto.....	3 6 3 8	Veal.....	5 4 6 2
Large Pork.....	4 4 4 6	Small Pork.....	4 8 5 2

## POTATOES, SOUTHWARK, Feb. 7.

During the past week the annexed arrivals have been received in the port of London: from Yorkshire, 1120 tons; Scotland, 1338; Devons, 844; Jersey and Guernsey, 1005; Kent and Essex, 548; Wisbeach, 170; total, 5025 tons. The above extensive supply, added to the mild weather, causes sales to be very heavy.

York Reds.....	per ton 60s. to 70s.	Wisbeach.....	per ton 45s. to 50s.
Scotch.....	50 to 60	Jersey and Guernsey Blues.....	45 to 50
Irish.....	50 to 60	Jersey Whites.....	35 to 40
Devons.....	55 to 60	Kent, Essex, and Suffolk Whites.....	50 to 55

## WOOL, Feb. 7.

There is yet no change in the wool market; the supply and demand continue to be equally limited, and prices have been without variation for some time past.

Down teggs.....	1s. 0½d. to 1s. 1½d.	Half-bred wethers.....	0s. 11d. to 1s. 0d.
Half-bred hogs.....	1 1½ 1 2	Leicester hogs.....	0 10½ 1 0
Down ewes and weth.....	0 10½ 0 11½	Leicester wethers.....	0 9½ 0 10½

## HAY, SMITHFIELD, Feb. 5.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow Hay.....	80s. to 84s.	New Clover Hay.....	90s. to 110s.
New ditto.....	70 to 88	Old ditto.....	100 to 115
Useful old ditto.....	85 to 90	Oat Straw.....	36 to 38
Fine Upland and Rye Grass.....	90 to 95	Wheat Straw.....	38 to 40

## COAL EXCHANGE, Feb. 7.

Stewart's, 21s. 9d.; Hetton's 21s. 6d.; Lambton's, 21s. 3d.; Hartlepool's, 21s. 6d. Number of ships arrived this week, 94.

## GROCERIES, TUESDAY, Feb. 8.

TEA.—The accounts from Macao notice such high rates for tea, and so much trouble in the shipment, that the article has risen here. Company's Congou has touched 1s 10½d per lb. cash, and the market has rather an improved tendency, owing to the steady deliveries for consumption.

COFFEE.—348 bags Brazil were chiefly taken in above the value, viz., at 40s for good ordinary quality.

SUGAR.—Scarcely any transactions have taken place worth reporting, which may be attributed to there being an opinion that some alteration in the duties is likely to take place. The public sales have offered 6,726 bags Mauritius, 4,400 bags Bengal, and 200 Madras; nearly the whole of which was taken in.

TALLOW.—P. Y. C. is quoted 48s to 48s 6d per cwt. with a firm market. An increase of duty is rather anticipated.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

## EVANGELICAL VOLUNTARY CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held at the HORNS TAVERN, KENNINGTON, on TUESDAY EVENING, February 15.  
Sir CULLING E. SMITH, Bart, will take the Chair at Half-past Six o'clock precisely.

## THE PROTESTANT UNION, for the Benefit of Widows and Children of Protestant Ministers of all Denominations.

Established, 1798. Funded Capital, £20,000.

Treasurer, WILLIAM ALERS HANKEY, Esq.

Directors for the Present Year.

Rev. JAMES BENNETT, D.D. Rev. J. MATHESON, D.D.  
Rev. JOHN BLACKBURN. Rev. J. STYLES, D.D.  
Rev. THOMAS JACKSON. Rev. ARTHUR TIDMAN.

Consulting Physician, J. R. BENNETT, Esq., M.D.  
24, Finsbury Place.

Secretary, Rev. JOHN KNIGHT.

The Directors solicit the attention of their brethren in the Christian ministry to the advantages which membership in this safe and economic "Union" will confer on their Widows and Orphan Children.

Its Capital, upwards of £20,000, was not raised by shares, for the use of which a part of the profits must be paid, but has almost entirely accumulated from the subscriptions of its own Members during more than forty years. This has resulted from a principle of the Institution, that all its profits shall be applied to benefit the Members, either by the reduction of premium or the increase of annuity, as two experienced actuaries may advise at its extraordinary audits, which are held for that purpose every seven years.

A threefold benefit is secured by holding a policy in "The Protestant Union."

1. An annuity for the Widow from £10 to £50, according to the rate of a Table of Premiums which has been calculated by a competent Actuary.

2. Provision for the Children, whether minors or

adults, when there is no Widow, according to their number, but which never exceeds the amount of eight years' Annuity.

3. Should a Widow die or marry again within eight years of a Member's death, his Children are entitled to a sum equal to the difference between the amount actually received by the Widow subsequent to that event, and eight years' Annuity.

The Directors, therefore, invite their brethren who have not yet made provision for their families to enrol themselves Members of "The Protestant Union," in which ministers, at an annual charge of from £6 to £12, according to the ages of the parties, may secure these important advantages for their bereaved families.

And where it is impracticable for a minister to make such an investment, the Directors would suggest to his people that, by a trifling effort, they might effect a policy for him, and so relieve his mind from much anxiety, and his family from the humiliating necessity of appealing to the charity of the religious public after his decease.

Ministers wishing to become Members are requested to apply by letter (prepaid) addressed to the Secretary, Surrey Lodge, Brixton Hill; or at the Congregational Library, Blomfield Street, where the Rules of the Institution may be obtained by personal application to Mr CHURCHYARD.

## PRACTICAL EXPOSITIONS.

Edited by the

Rev. JAMES SHERMAN, Surrey Chapel.

MANTON ON THE EPISTLE OF JAMES. 7s. 6d.

GREENHILL ON EZEKIEL. 1650. 25s.

ADAMS ON SECOND OF PETER. 1633. 25s.

JENKYN ON JUDE. 1653. 10s. 6d.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

DAILLE ON THE PHILIPPIANS. 1613. } 12s. 6d.

DAILLE ON THE COLOSSIANS. 1618. } IN ONE VOL.

Shortly will be Published.

BURROUGHS, HALL, and REYNOLDS, ON HOSEA.

"We consider the Christian church, and more especially Christian ministers and students preparing for the ministry, under deep obligations to the Rev. James Sherman, for the republication of those valuable exposi-

tory works, which were bequeathed to posterity by the puritan divines."—E. Henderson, D.D. Theological Tutor.—Robert Halley, D.D.

"As there is so little new under the sun, it might often be preferable in this manner to reproduce and republish the actual treasures of literature which lie concealed and neglected, rather than perpetually to increase the number of books, apparently new, but of which the principal materials are already in our possession."—William Stroud, M.D.

"I think you are conferring a great benefit on the rising ministry, as well as on the religious public, in furnishing them with these Expositions in a neat and even elegant form, and at a very reasonable price."—Walter Scott, Theological Tutor.

"The present design of reprinting some of the most scarce and valuable Expositions of our old divines in a cheap and accessible form cannot but be entitled to all commendation."—W. B. Clulow, Classical Tutor.

"The esteemed minister of Surrey Chapel, the Rev. James Sherman, has with great toil rescued almost from oblivion these valuable specimens of Christian theology of the seventeenth century, which are now presented to the public in a form of great beauty, and at a cost scarcely amounting to a fifth part of the price of the old editions."—George Collison, D.D.—Samuel Ransom, A.M.

"I think there never was a time when it was more important to bring before the public the theology of the fathers of our churches; in my humble opinion, far better guides in ascertaining the mind of the Spirit than certain other fathers who are referred to by some with such awful deference. The grand fundamental truths of the glorious gospel are nowhere so well illustrated and defended as in the writings of such men as Greenhill, Owen, Howe, and the divines of that day."—Thomas Palmer Bull.

"Congregations and individual Christians should know that they could not present a Minister with volumes more serviceable or acceptable than those which we here cordially recommend."—Rev. John Harris, D.D.—Rev. Joseph Sortain, A.B.

SAMUEL HOLDSWORTH, 69, Berners-street; and all Booksellers.



**FRAUD.**—G. J. COCKEREL respectfully draws attention to the practice of substituting or mixing in Seconds with a large proportion of the COALS delivered as Best; and that, while every variety of effort and precaution that art or ingenuity could devise has been had recourse to by the competitors for public patronage, this abuse, from its general adoption, has been suffered to pass almost unnoticed. G. J. C. continues to deal exclusively in BEST COALS, which may be certified by the books at the Coal-meter's Office. STEWART'S, HETTON'S, or LAMBTON'S SUNDERLAND COALS, delivered full weight, free from small, &c., for cash after trial, at 30s. per ton; small, 17s., to burn with coke, at 18s. per chaldron; Anthracite, 32s. per ton; and Cannel coal, 40s. per ton. Dye-house Wharf, Clink Street, Southwark.

Home! Away from Home!  
**NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE TEMPERANCE HOTEL**, 19, Bigg Market.

**T. WILCKE** again returns his grateful acknowledgments to his numerous Friends, for their invariable kindness to him during the nine years he has been in business as the Keeper of a Temperance Hotel, and especially since he entered on the above Establishment; and takes this opportunity of informing them, and the Public generally, that it is still his study and determination to render his accommodations agreeable and satisfactory to all who may honour him with their commands.

**IMPORTANT WORK ON INDIA.**  
Dedicated, by special permission, to her Majesty. In 2 vols. 8vo., price 18s. cloth, illustrated with a coloured Map of India, and Thirteen fine Engravings on wood, by Sly.

**CONTINENTAL INDIA:** Traveling Sketches and Historical Recollections, illustrating the Antiquity, Religion, and Manners of the Hindoos; the Extent of British Conquests and the Progress of Missionary Operations. By J. W. MASSIE, M.R.I.A.

"We take our leave of Mr Massie with hearty thanks for the service he has rendered to the cause of religion by his able work."—*Eclectic Review*.

"The production of a man of no ordinary powers of mind; it refers to subjects of the highest importance to all classes of thinking, philanthropic, and Christian men, and it is written in a superior style."—*Herald of Peace*.

T. WARD and Co., Paternoster Row.

This day is published, 8vo., cloth boards, price 7s.

**A VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES IN 1841.** By JOSEPH STURGE.

London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co., Paternoster Row. Birmingham: B. Hudson, Bull Street.

Just published, foolscap 8vo., 5s. cloth.

**ZAIDA: a Tale of Granada; and Minor Poems.** By LEWIS EVANS, author of "The Pleasures of Benevolence."

London: Houlston and Stoneman, Paternoster Row; J. Unwin, 31, Bucklersbury.

**THE SELF-INSTRUCTING LATIN**

CLASSIC, whereby a perfect knowledge of the Latin Language may be readily acquired, without burdening the memory with the multifarious rules of syntactical Grammar, the searching a Dictionary for the interpretation of words, or even requiring the assistance of a Classical Tutor. By W. JACOBS. In Twelve Parts, at 1s. each; or 2 Vols. 7s. each, cloth.

By the same Author,

**THE MYSTERIES OF THE LATIN LANGUAGE REVEALED;** or, Remarks showing that it can be read and understood without being confined to the forms of Government of Grammatical Construction: and proved by verbatim translations of passages from Fourteen of the standard poetical and prose Latin Classics. 4s.

Published by W. BRITAIN, 11, Paternoster Row.

**BEDDOME'S POWDERS,** the best Alternative Aperient for Children in Disorders of the Stomach, Worms, &c.

**BEDDOME'S FEVER POWDERS,** a valuable Medicine for Colds and Influenza.

Sold, 13d. per packet, by Sanger and Co., 150, Oxford Street; Sutton and Co., Bow Church Yard; Edwards, St Paul's; Barclay and Sons, Farringdon Street, London; Davenport and Steadman, Waterloo Place, Edinburgh.

Observe, "Samuel Beddome, Camberwell," in white letters on the stamp outside.

Just published, new edition, price 2d., or 12s. per 100, by direct application to the publisher.

**RECONCILIATION BETWEEN THE MIDDLE AND LABOURING CLASSES.** A Series of Articles which have appeared in the *Nonconformist* on this subject and that of COMPLETE SUFFRAGE.

Published by B. STEILL, 20, Paternoster Row, London. To be had also of Mr. JOSEPH COOPER, Hat Warehouse, Lawrence Pountney Lane; and Mr. STAFFORD ALLEN, 7, Cowper Street, Finsbury.

\* \* The pamphlet may be sent by post to all parts of the kingdom for 2d. A liberal allowance to country booksellers.

**THE PENNY PULPIT,** a collection of

accurately-reported Sermons, by Ministers of various denominations, published in weekly Numbers (each number containing one complete sermon); and monthly Parts, 6d.; or 5 Vols., bound in cloth, 3s. 6d. each. Vols I. to XVI. may be had bound. The following selection is also worthy of notice: viz., 8 Sermons, by Rev. James Parsons, with Portrait, 1s.; 5 by Rev. J. Fletcher, D.D., with Portrait, 1s.; 9 by Rev. Thomas Binney, with Portrait, 1s. 6d.; 5 by Rev. J. Aldis, 1s.; 15 by Rev. H. Melville, B.D., 2s. 6d.; 3 by Rev. W. B. Collyer, 6d.; 6 Lectures on Popery, Puseyism, &c., by Rev. Thos. Archer, 1s.; 4 Lectures on Palestine, by Rev. Thos. Archer, 1s.; 14 Lectures at Weighhouse, on some of the most important Facts and Events, as recorded in Scripture, 2s.; 12 Lectures on Human Happiness, 2s.; 9 Lectures on the Influence of Religion on mankind, 1s. 6d.; 12 Lectures in Vindication of the Bible, 2s.; 12 Lectures on the Person, Life, and Ministry of Our Lord Jesus Christ, 2s.; 12 Lectures on Scripture Prophecy, 2s.; 7 Lectures on the Last Hours of our Lord Jesus Christ, 1s.

**THE SACRED STAR,** a Magazine of Biblical Literature and Moral Instruction, 35 pages, 18mo., price 2d.

**THE MOTHER'S MAGAZINE,** issued by an Association of Mothers in America, published monthly, 16 pages, 8vo., price 2d.

London: JAMES PAUL, 1, Chapter-house Court, north side of St Paul's Church Yard.

#### THE TWENTY-FOURTH EDITION OF ONE THOUSAND EACH

Neatly bound in cloth, gilt, price £1 6s. Royal Paper, cloth, gilt, £2.

**A GUIDE TO FAMILY DEVOTION;** containing 730 HYMNS, 730 PRAYERS, and 730 PORTIONS OF SCRIPTURE, with suitable REFLECTIONS. Also, AN APPENDIX, comprising a great variety of Prayers to suit particular days, seasons, circumstances, and events of Providence. The whole arranged to form a distinct and complete Service for every Morning and Evening in the Year. By the Rev. ALEXANDER FLETCHER, author of "Scripture History," "Lectures to Children," "Cottager's Friend," &c. Embellished with a Portrait and Fifteen Engravings.

Rev. W. B. COLLYER, D.D., Peckham,  
Rev. G. COLLISON, D.D., Hackney,

Rev. J. DAVIES, Bristol,  
Rev. S. RANSOM, Hackney,

Rev. G. LEGGE, Bristol,  
Rev. H. CALDERWOOD, Kendal,

Rev. J. GILBERT, Islington,  
Rev. J. E. GOOD, Gosport.

Rev. S. LUKE, Chester,  
Rev. J. E. GOOD, Gosport.

Extract from a Letter by the Rev. J. Harris, D.D., author of "Mammon."

The conception and arrangement of the work are admirable; and as far as I have had the opportunity of judging, the execution of it equals the plan. I have read various parts of it attentively; and while I have not met with anything which I could wish to have been omitted, most unfeignedly can I say that I have found much calculated to inspire and sustain devotion.  
Epsom.

*J. Harris*

A superficial survey of it, ("A Guide to Family Devotion,") is sufficient to manifest that its plan is the most complete of any with which I am acquainted, embracing everything which the service of the family altar requires, or admits of; while its execution is also such as to entitle it to commendation, and secure for it the circulation and use which its deserves.

Birmingham.

*J. S. Furness*

I feel it right to express my opinion that the plan is excellent; and that the execution of the plan is judicious, and well adapted to its purpose, as an aid to the great duty and blessing of family, conjugal, and secret worship.  
Hemelton.

*J. S. Smith*

It is not till after a careful perusal that I gave an opinion of Mr. Fletcher's "Guide to Family Devotion." This I do now with great pleasure; believing it to be a work eminently calculated for beneficial circulation in Christian families, to whom I would earnestly recommend it.

Hackney.

*J. F. Cox*

I am enabled to speak with propriety and confidence of the real worth and admirable adaptation to usefulness of your work. I have used it much in my own family, and I can truly say that as I advance it grows in my esteem. You have rendered a most important service to Christian households by your labours, and I have no doubt that its circulation will be as extensive as your most sanguine expectations could anticipate.  
Liverpool.

*J. R. Appleby*

On examination, I am much pleased with it, ("A Guide to Family Devotion,") and feel, when I am called to leave my family, that I leave for its use a good substitute behind me.  
Weigh-House.

*J. Binney*

In addition to the numerous Testimonials of English Ministers, nearly One Hundred of the most influential Clergymen of AMERICA—of all denominations—have testified, by letter, their high commendation of the excellence and great utility of the above Work

LONDON: GEORGE VIRTUE.

I highly prize your volume of "Family Devotion," and think it well adapted to secure the objects to which you aspire. The selections of Scripture are judicious; the sacred songs which you have introduced are appropriate and diversified; and, as a whole, I think the work is likely to prove a valuable aid to the piety of households.

Hackney

*John Clayton L.*

I consider it a vast advantage to persons who begin house-keeping, if unaccustomed to extemporaneous prayer, to have such a help to devotion as your work affords. Many, especially females have felt considerable difficulty in conducting family worship, for want of a selection of Scriptures adapted to family reading; this difficulty your work meets, and cannot but be appreciated by a large class of the Christian community. The work appears to me to be executed devotionally, which, in my opinion, is a strong recommendation of its excellency. With many sincere wishes for its success,  
Surrey-Chapel House.

*J. Sherman*

I have been particularly pleased with the adaptation of the several Hymns, Portions of Scripture, and Prayers, to each other. The general character of the whole is excellent; and I trust the work will be found eminently useful in the promotion of domestic piety. That result will, doubtless, be esteemed by you an ample reward for the labour you must have expended.  
York.

*James Parsons*

I regard this "Guide" as eminently calculated to lead on to the fulfilment of that prophecy, "Elijah shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." Much both of the mantle and the spirit of Elijah has fallen upon the author of this timely work.

*Robert Philip*

Maberley Chapel.

The evangelical strain of the prayers gives them an advantage over most other forms which have been published for families: I mean, not only the savour of evangelical feeling and motive with which they are imbued, but the frequent addresses which are intermingled to each Divine Person of the Triune Jehovah. I trust that your labours will lead many families to a practical use and enjoyment of the glorious privileges of the gospel.

*Isaac Pratt*  
Vicar of St. Stephen's, Coleman Street.

Your volume has, to my mind, several characteristic recommendations. The addition of sacred song, and especially of scripture reading to morning and evening prayer, I regard with great satisfaction. Your scripture selection also appears to be at once judicious and comprehensive. Allow me to add, that I have been delighted to find, at whatever page of your work I have opened, a strain thoroughly evangelical; the expressions of repentance towards God, and faith in the great atonement, seem to me essential to every prayer.  
Leeds.

*John Ely*